

JULY/AUGUST 2013

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Oklahoma Department of Corrections

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Inside Corrections is an Oklahoma Department of Corrections bi-monthly publication distributed to employees, retirees and friends of criminal justice, to enhance communications and provide information on the development and achievements of this agency.

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On the Cover

Special Needs Offenders

INSIDE CORRECTIONS

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OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MISSION:
**TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC, THE EMPLOYEES,
AND THE OFFENDERS**

All readers are encouraged to submit articles, letters, comments and ideas for future issues. Copy should be submitted by e-mail to marcella.reed@doc.state.ok.us or CD. All articles are subject to editing, with every effort made to preserve the integrity of the submission.

This publication is issued by the Oklahoma Department of Corrections as authorized by the Executive Communications Administrator. Starting with the July 2010 issue, this document will no longer be printed, but will be posted to the Oklahoma Department of Corrections website. Due to the cost of printing, this publication will be issued in an electronic format only. Access to copies can be made from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections website (www.doc.state.ok.us).

Welcome to Inside Corrections



I have just returned from my last Association of State Correctional Administrators meeting (ASCA), which is always held in conjunction with the American Correctional Association (ACA) conference.

I had the pleasure of chairing the ASCA committee on re-entry for eight years where I have had the opportunity to schedule and hear presentations from across the nation on re-entry efforts. Even though there is so much more to do, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections continues to be on the forefront of innovations in this area as evident by the progress we are making, for example, with veteran's re-entry and mental health re-entry.

I also chair the commission on accreditation where I have the opportunity to review ACA audit reports and visit panel reviews to include ACA standards found in noncompliance, etc. These duties allow me to review a vast amount of information and compare the Oklahoma Department of Corrections with other agencies. As stated many times and in many places, we do so much with less and that "so much" is encased in multiple layers of top quality corrections and professionalism. Outside of Oklahoma, we are viewed as a progressive, innovative and quality correctional system. Many of our in-state stakeholders would also agree with our national accolades.

I encourage employees of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections to maintain our high quality and to push forward with innovation and vision.

Justin Jones

Justin Jones
Director
Oklahoma Department of Corrections



DR. JANNA MORGAN
*Chief Mental Health Officer
 Mental Health Services*

Dr. Janna Morgan began her corrections career completing her doctoral practicum in 2003 & 2004 with DOC at Dick Conner Correctional Center and the Female Offenders Committed to Ultimate Success (FOCUS) program in Tulsa.

She began working for Oklahoma Department of Corrections on April 13, 2008, as a psychologist at Dick Conner Correctional Center. On October 7, 2010, she transferred to Oklahoma State Penitentiary undertaking the position of Clinical Coordinator, which includes supervision of mental health services not only at OSP but also at Jackie Brannon Correctional Center, Northeast Oklahoma Correctional Center, Mack Alford Correctional Center, Howard McLeod Correctional Center and Jim E. Hamilton Correctional Center.

MIKE WADE
*Warden
 Jim E. Hamilton CC*

Mike Wade began his career with the Department of Corrections in 1989 at the John Lilley Correctional Center as a correctional officer cadet. While at JLCC, he additionally served as correctional counselor, administrative programs officer I and business manager. In November 2010, Mr. Wade promoted to deputy warden at Northeast Oklahoma Correctional Center. Mr. Wade received his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Northeastern State University.





TAMI GROGAN
Administrator
Sentence Administration
& Offender Records

Tami Grogan began her career with the Department of Corrections in 1983 at the McAlester Community Treatment Center after receiving her bachelor's degree in Social Work from East Central University. Since that time, she has held various positions to include case manager, case manager supervisor, correctional records officer and sentence administration auditor. Tami has worked in community corrections, as well as, minimum and medium security facilities.

Joe Hankins
Assistant District Supervisor
Southeast District CC

Mr. Hankins began his career with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections at Oklahoma State Penitentiary as a correctional officer I in December 1995. He transferred in May 1996 to Southeast District Community Corrections as a probation and parole officer I in the Idabel Sub-Office. He promoted through the ranks of a probation & parole officer II & III, and in October 2007, he promoted to team supervisor in the McAlester District Office. On June 11, 2013, he promoted to Assistant District Supervisor also in McAlester at Southeast District Community Corrections. Mr. Hankins has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Oklahoma.

Dwayne Janis
Assistant District Supervisor
Southwest District CC

Mr. Janis began his career with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in July 1990 as a correctional officer I at the Oklahoma State Reformatory. While at Oklahoma State Reformatory, Mr. Janis promoted to correctional officer II in August 1993, correctional counselor in October 1996 and correctional case manager in June 1998 until May 2000. In May 2000, Mr. Janis accepted a chief of security position at the Southwest Oklahoma Juvenile Center in Manitou, Oklahoma and was employed with that agency until January 2003. In January 2003, Mr. Janis returned to the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (Southwest District) and served as a probation & parole officer until promoting in July 2008 to probation & parole officer

IV (team supervisor). Mr. Janis received his Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Management/Ethics from Mid-America Bible College in August 2001.

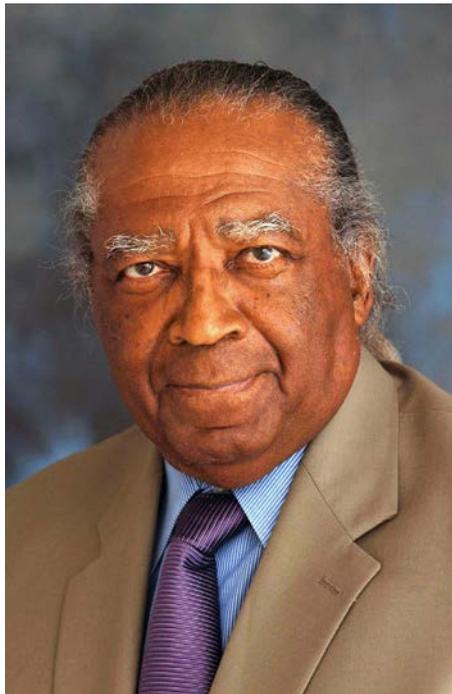
Michael Shelite
Deputy Warden
Joseph Harp CC

Mr. Shelite began his career with the Department of Corrections at James Crabtree Correctional Center as a correctional officer in 1989. While at JCCC, he promoted through the ranks to correctional security manager I. Mr. Shelite also served as JCCC Cert Commander and Assistant Commander/Training Officer for the Oklahoma Department of Corrections Honor Guard. In 2010, he promoted to chief of security II at Howard McLeod Correctional Center and in December 2012 promoted to chief of security III at the Joseph Harp Correctional Center. Mr. Shelite received an Associate Degree in Police Science from Redlands College in 2003 and a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice from Mid-America Christian University in 2005.

Jimmy Shipley
Deputy Warden
Joseph Harp CC

Mr. Shipley began his career with the Department of Corrections at Oklahoma State Penitentiary as a correctional officer in 1988. Mr. Shipley has held many positions in his career to include case manager, senior training officer (EWCC), senior case manager (OSP) parole investigator (MACC), transition coordinator (OSR) and unit manager (OSR, JBCC, JEHCC). Mr. Shipley received a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice from East Central University in 1997.

IN MEMORY OF THEODORE (TED) LOGAN



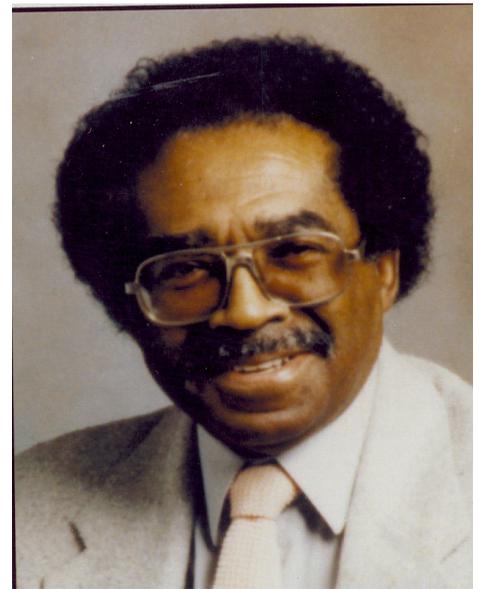
Theodore R. Logan (Ted) was born on February 9, 1930 to John and Effie Logan in Boley, Oklahoma.

Ted began his career with Oklahoma Department of Corrections in January 1972 as a treatment officer at the Oklahoma City Community Treatment Center. After holding several position there, he was named superintendent of the Women's Treatment Center in December 1975. In 1977, that facility was renamed Mabel Bassett Correctional

Center and Ted was appointed as warden. This appointment made him the first black warden in the state of Oklahoma. He served in that capacity until May 1984 when he was superintendent of the Lawton Community Corrections Center. He retired from the agency in December of 1987. He then served as an instructor in Criminal Justice at Rose State College, Midwest City. He later retired from Rose State College in 1998.

In July of 2003, Ted was appointed to the Board of Corrections. He served on the board as a member and later as the board chair until July 2012.

Ted was a member of a number of professional organizations, to include American Correctional Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, life member of National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice, and the Southern States Correctional Association. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, life member of NAACP, Disabled American Veterans, life member of Lawton Northside Chamber of Commerce, Veterans of Foreign Wars,



member of Midwest City Civilian Police Academy, Southwest Criminal Justice Teacher Association and more.

His special interests included: serving as president of Board of Trustees for Drug Recovery Inc., served on the Human Rights Commission, Private Prison committee, consultant for Jericho Halfway House, member of the Oklahoma County Sentencing Council, presented workshops on violence in the workplace, member of the MLK Prayer Breakfast Midwest City Committee and chairman of Economic Development Committee for NAACP.

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*A life well lived is a precious gift, of hope and strength and grace,
from someone who has made our world a brighter, better place.*



SPECIAL NEEDS OFFENDERS

by Eric Franklin, Deputy Director
Employee Development & Offender Services

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections operates a variety of programs and services geared toward special populations in custody. These services provided by the education, medical and mental health units are designed to meet the needs of specific segments of the offender population.

Education

The ODOC currently employs seventy-three certified teachers. Of that number, twelve have certification in special education. Facility education staff members work to identify not only

those offenders who have education needs, but also those who qualify for special education opportunities. When an offender with special education needs is identified, DOC teachers contact previous schools of attendance in order to obtain any active Individualized Education Plans (IEP) that may exist. If an existing IEP is discovered, the plan is forwarded to the education unit, the offender is then matched with the appropriate teacher, and an IEP meeting is conducted at the facility. If no plan is forwarded from the previous school of attendance, a plan is developed.

IEP's address the offender's individual learning needs, as well as academic strengths and weaknesses. Some of the disabilities which have prevented students from being successful in mainstream classrooms that are addressed by special education are: LD (Learning Disabilities), ED (Emotionally Disturbed), and ID (Intellectually Disabled, formerly MR (Mental Retardation). Various accommodations and modifications are allowed to ensure student success in addressing these disabilities. A few examples of common modifications include but are not limited to: more time on tasks, frequent breaks, auditory prompts, and one-on-one teaching. These accommodations are allowed to address student needs and afford them the best opportunity for success.

An HBO documentary specifically focusing on special education needs of Oklahoma offenders has been filmed over the past year. Staff and offenders were filmed at Oklahoma State Reformatory, Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center, and Joseph Harp Correctional Center. This project followed several individuals

identified with special needs at various points in their educational progress.

Over the past year and a half, over 120 offenders with special education needs have been served within the ODOC system with fifteen receiving their GED's before discharge.

Collaborative Mental Health Reentry Program Results

- Collaborative Mental Health Reentry Program participants were almost 6 times more likely to be enrolled in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) at DOC release than the baseline comparison group, allowing for immediate services upon discharge.
- Service engagement rates for CMHRP clients were 6 times higher than that of the baseline comparison group.
- CMHRP clients were 39% more likely to be employed three years following DOC release than the baseline comparison group.
- CMHRP clients received 80% less inpatient admissions than the baseline comparison group
- Inpatient hospitalizations for offenders with serious mental illness decreased from 8.7% to 2.4%. Outpatient service utilization increased from 55.1% to 89.1%.
- Collaboration with the Social Services and the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitative Services- Disability Determination Division has increased the "Allowance Rate" of SSI/SSDI applications from 36% to 90%.
- Recidivism: The three year re-incarceration rates for CMHRP clients were more than 40% lower than the baseline comparison group.

Mental Health

In 2007, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) and the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) implemented the Collaborative Mental Health Reentry Program (CMHRP). ODMHSAS funded staff positions are located in correctional facilities with the greatest number of offenders with serious mental illnesses. The program is staffed by Integrated Services Discharge Managers (ISDM), Co-occurring Treatment Specialists (COTS), and a Program Coordinator. The ISDMs serve as part of the ODOC institutional mental health treatment team to create and implement the individualized treatment plan, including the reentry planning for offenders with a serious mental illness.

The program includes community-based Reentry Intensive Care Coordination Teams (RICCT) to improve the transition of reentering offenders with serious mental illness. RICCT staff meets with offender a minimum of 90 days before projected release date from prison and works with the offender in the community until the offender has adjusted to life following incarceration.

The ODOC and the ODMHSAS have partnered to create a dynamic collaborative reentry program to improve the transition of incarcerated offenders with serious mental illness

into appropriate community-based mental health services. Increased access to community-based mental health outpatient treatment services is associated with positive outcomes such as less utilization of inpatient hospitalization, higher rates of employment and lower re-incarceration rates. Long-term findings document improvements in Medicaid enrollment, employment rates, and re-incarceration rates. Thus, the CMHRP improves public safety and results in cost savings. Cost savings are achieved through fewer consumers receiving inpatient hospitalizations and lower re-incarceration rates. Overall, these findings add support and credibility to the belief that when offender's needs are effectively and adequately met in the community, successful outcomes will result and recovery is possible.

Medical Services

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections serves a growing number of aging and ill offenders. Medical Services serves these offenders in the roles of caregivers and patients (remembering that the patients are offenders). The American Correctional Association and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care offer policy and procedure guidelines and best practices regarding Offender health care.

Chronic Illness

DOC Medical Services regularly conducts audits of DOC health care,

monitoring for acceptable access to care and quality of care. Outcomes typically exceed established benchmarks. 99% of the approximately 8000 monthly sick call requests are triaged within 24 hours. Within DOC, 47% of diabetics have very well controlled blood sugars (as measured by a Hemoglobin A1C blood test), compared to 34% of patients found in the community (ODOC Performance Improvement Audit Outcomes, 2012).

Currently, DOC houses approximately 8,860 offenders who suffer from one or more chronic medical illnesses. A snapshot look at the population reveals remarkable numbers: 140 patients with HIV, 1600 with asthma, 1300 diabetics, 4750 with high blood pressure, more than 2000 with diagnosed liver disease, and more than 140 with diagnosed cancer. Patients are scattered across all DOC facilities; but JHCC, LARC, OSR, DCCC, MBCC, JCCC and JLCC house relatively larger percentages of chronically ill offenders. Chronically ill offenders are seen in clinic at least once every 6 months, and they receive blood tests and other evaluations which are appropriate for their disease.

Aging Offenders

4,223 DOC offenders (about 17%) are 50 years of age or older. 988 are over 60. 140 are over 70. Almost half of the offenders over 50 are housed in medium security facilities. 1,934 are serving sentences which are 85%, Life, LWOP,

(Continued on page 35)

SPECIAL NEEDS OFFENDERS

Mental Health

by Dr. Linda Evans

Joseph Harp Correctional Center (JHCC) is unique among all the facilities under the supervision of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. This is the result of many different characteristics that are unique to JHCC. To begin with, it is the largest of the state run facilities with an offender population that approaches 1,400. However, it is the composition of the offender population that makes JHCC one-of-a-kind.

There are over 700 offenders with mental health histories at JHCC. JHCC is the home of the mental health unit for all medium and minimum prisons, community centers, and work camps. The acute care housing unit, known as MHU-1, houses individuals that would normally be seen at a state hospital if they were in the community. They are psychotic and are generally considered a threat to themselves and others or are gravely disabled. MHU-1 is comprised of 30 safe cells with cameras. This provides supervision 24/7 for the offender patients in these cells. A series of step-down procedures seeks

to allow the offenders on this unit the opportunity to have progressively more freedom as they stabilize. MHU has its own nursing staff and medical unit as well as its own cafeteria. A library was recently added.

MHU-2 is an 80 bed transitional unit. While some offenders will remain too fragile to function safely in the general population and will remain on MHU-2 throughout their period of incarceration, most of the men on MHU-2 will eventually return to less restrictive housing. This may be either in general population or on the Intermediate Care Housing Unit (ICHU) at JHCC.

ICHU is another step-down unit for the mentally ill at JHCC. This unit was expanded within the last 2 years from 100 beds to 120 beds due to the high demand for its services. On this unit, the offenders have generally stabilized to the point that they can attend groups and mix with the general population offenders while maintaining a structured and protected living environment. Two psychologists and a psychological clinician are housed on the unit with the offenders for easy and immediate access. While on ICHU, the offenders attend groups to educate them about their illness and the medications that are frequently prescribed to treat it.

(Continued on page 36)

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

The Prison Prism

by James A. Smash, Ph.D

"Special populations are defined as those prisoners who exhibit unique physical, mental, social and programmatic needs that distinguish them from other prisoners and for whom jail and prison management have to respond in nontraditional and innovative ways.."

Stan Stojkovic, Ph.D

I chose this definition because it provides a broader range of offenders who can, may, or will be included as special populations. Generally when the subject of special populations surfaces, the discussion will invariably encompass needs and identification versus financial, physical and facility burden. There will be the perfunctory slides and matrices delineating a comprehensive demographic picture of the special population members. In addition, there will be a description of their respective, unique category and of course the prohibitive, sometimes projected costs (prism) the organization will incur from being responsible for these special, but problematic population (prism). As we all know, a prism will provide a different view or perspective depending on who is looking through it and the direction in which it may be aimed or focused. Instead of slides and numbers and the "gloom and doom" of what it will cost to provide morally and ethically standards and policies to care for the special population members, I want to examine special populations in OKDOC through the prisms of those who deal with them. Hopefully, this approach sheds some light on the reality of the lives of special populations and how the prisms from which we view them may be more important than dollars

and cents or perhaps “sense.” Prisms that will be explored will include but not be limited to general staff (GS), security (SC), offender (OF), manager of special populations (MSP), special populations (SP), caregivers (CG), mental health (MH) and administration (AD).

In fairness to the discussion about special populations, there are many groups that could be and are indeed considered as special populations, but for this article the discussion will focus on medical, mentally ill and Lesbians, Gays, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) and those sexually victimized. Each of these special population groups will provide similar as well as distinct challenges for corrections. For all of these groups, the likelihood of longer sentencing will increase the chances of inclusion in more than one group. Many will become elderly and have more medical problems.

Medical special populations are often considered “chronic care.” Chronic care clinics are for diseases that are considered to require continuous medical treatment or intervention. Chronic care special populations may have one or more of the following: diabetes, hypertension, coronary artery disease, chronic liver disease, hepatitis C, HIV, Asthma/COPD and seizure disorder.

Prisms: An SC prism may see this special population as a transport or staffing nightmare. *“How many runs to Lindsey do we have today? How many days do we have to sit on him at the hospital?”* A CG prism may see them as, *“It is tough to get all these chronic cares scheduled for labs? Offender 000001 never shows up to clinic and hardly ever takes his meds every day. Then he wonders why he is hurting. Poor offender 00002, he’s been in so long and he is on 5 chronic care clinics, I don’t know how he*

makes it.” Other CG prism views maybe *“I enjoy chronic care because some of these guys have so many serious problems and they would have never been addressed on the outside.”* A GS prism may see, *“They have all this stuff because they lived a hard life on the outside and now we get to pay the bill for it.”* *“I have seen a seizure before and that sure didn’t look like one. He is just trying to get a hospital ride.”* A MH prism may see, *“No wonder he is depressed and suicidal, he recently found out he has HIV and Hep C or maybe supportive counseling can help with making sense of life after this news.”* The views from the prisms are varied and at times diametrically opposed as they are shocking and unfortunately expected sometimes.

Please read on, as we are just getting started on appreciating why these offenders are truly special and it is not because of what they did or their category, but what it brings out of each of us from the backdrop of our family, social political perspectives, our respective disciplines and the manner in which we see the corrections lifestyle. Are our comments special?

Mentally ill special populations have required multiple layers of policies and demands on the system from providing medications, to assuring medication compliance, to appropriate service delivery, to the addressing of associated stigmas that are being tempered by a OKDOC campaign of culture change. Primarily, most people do not know much about mental illness and fear of the unknown increases the need for special treatment. However, in fairness to the general prison population they do reasonably well. One of the main challenges is the dearth of mental health facilities in the communities across the nation and the unceremonious rise of the corrections system to fill the void. As the statue of liberty is and has been the beacon for

...there are many groups that could be and are indeed considered as special populations, but for this article the discussion will focus on medical, mentally ill and Lesbians, Gays, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) and those sexually victimized.

Special Needs Offenders - James Crabtree Correctional Center

immigrants, so has corrections become the beacon for receiving our mentally ill. The newest undeserved group who are "tired, poor, and but also mentally ill."

Prisms (GS) *"You need to talk to him he has issues, or he paces and talks to himself is he going to go 'offon one of us? Call the Doc, he needs a group hug."* (OF) *"He stays up all night and can't sleep. He needs some of them "be cool pills."* (SC) *"What kind of watch is he on and when will he be off."* *"He's not crazy he is just faking, I can tell."* (AD) *"Does he need to go to JHCC?"* (MH) *"He is probably not taking meds as prescribed and experiencing stressors. We will get him back on track. No, just because he talks to himself and has conversations at times does not mean he is a threat to you, but we will talk to him."*

Again as shocking as the views from the prisms may seem, they are nevertheless things that are a part of a culture and perceptions about offenders included in special populations. The views are not facility, nor state specific, but reflective of a corrections culture in transition with more changes for improvement on the horizon.

LGBT. This special population has had the ability to be nebulous, blending in with the prison population. They are definitely challenging as members are trickling into mainstream openness that create demands for policies regarding safety and vulnerability, respect for lifestyle, zero-tolerance for sex and possible medical assistance for transgender transition. In addition to these demands are also the requirements for anonymity about medical issues (chronic care), while insuring control of the possible spread of more serious and potentially lethal diseases. In itself, the LGBT population will have a varying degree of involvement with the aforementioned precautions and policies; some none at all, others a lot. Of all of the special populations, the LGBT probably have more challenges and stigmas requiring necessary responses on several fronts.

Prisms: (GS) *"It is just wrong, the bible says so. I don't even understand how they can do that."* (OF) *"Not on my unit, they*

got to pay to stay here or go" or "I am ok long as they don't ask me."

(GS) *"Why does my tax money have to pay for that," or "if he has the parts of a man, he is a man."* (CG) *"I am concerned about you staying on your meds so that we can control your levels or I am concerned that he is active."* (MH) *"It is difficult to be open, yet I understand the importance for you," or "What can be done to help you tolerate the negative comments and create positive self talk to possibly prevent depression?"* (SC) *"If you come to prison with that expect to have difficulty; you get what you ask for," or "We will make sure that you are safe to do your time."* (AD) *"We must adhere to the PREA policy and make sure zero means zero!"*

In summary, differences in views from the prisms illustrate the real challenges of daily life with special populations. Imagine listening to these statements from each prism and then going about the business of helping them! It is the ultimate test of the professionalism from each discipline to generate the most basic, yet profound view that exemplifies why we do what we are paid to do. It helps to remind ourselves from time to time that:

"They are people who have been judged and remanded to the custody of the state for a specified time. I am not here to punish or judge again, but to provide the appropriate, responsible care with the utmost respect for their human condition."

If you read this article objectively, you may acknowledge that although the corrections culture has come a long way to come to grips with the uniqueness of the human condition of being in prison and being special within that group. The truth is many of the challenges of caring for special populations actually begin with policies to curb the nuisance, negative perspectives that perpetuate about the groups. There may be a time when we all evolve where we don't need a policy to legislate our thoughts and words that no longer support the mission. ■

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SPECIAL NEEDS OFFENDERS: *Addressing Illiteracy*

by Malaya Brooks, Correctional Teacher II
Mack Alford Correctional Center - Education Department



Illiteracy is not a new issue facing corrections. As a matter of fact, the impact of illiteracy is so widespread that it reaches into EVERY community. No community is immune. Those enclosed by razor wire as well as those that we raise our children in are subjected to the problems affiliated with illiteracy.

The term illiterate is widely associated with the individual's inability to read or write or that they have little or no education. It impacts the economy, health, criminal justice system and most disturbing, our youth, just to mention a few.

The National Institute of Health reports that the rate of illiteracy in American's correctional systems is over 60%.

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections has developed a system to identify offenders that have educational needs, and practices to assist those offenders.

Most DOC staff is aware that a large number

of our offenders have little or no formal education. However, we all tend to forget how that affects our day-to-day operations. For instance, upon arrival at our facility, each offender is given an Offender Handbook and told to read it and follow the rules. Then when an offender has an infraction of a rule, he receives some level of discipline. The concept that the offender did not know the rules due to his inability to read the handbook or other memorandums that have been posted are usually not considered. The undesired behaviors of the offender possibly have a direct link to his literacy level.

How do we determine those offenders that possibly have little or no education? We must first determine those that have completed academic levels, including completion of High School or GED requirements.

At MACC prior to weekly orientations, the classification staff send Education a list of the offenders that are to attend the meeting. During the new arrival orientation process, each offender is asked if they have already completed a High School diploma (HSD) or a GED. Each offender that claims a completion is then asked to complete a form detailing information that Education staff can use to verify the claim.

The COMIT data system is utilized to gather and/or verify offender's academic information. Upon verifying a HSD or GED for an offender, the information is placed in COMIT and copies of the

documents are sent to the offender and his case manager. The case manager then places the information in OMS. This process ensures that the information can be utilized by others throughout the inmate's incarceration, even when he changes facilities.

We then can focus our attention on the remaining offenders. The offenders not claiming a HSD/GED completion is then assigned to attend education classes. This assignment is considered their job.

Often, offenders are removed from

educational programs for various reasons such as medical issues, placement in SHU, and other discipline issues. This is where a really good tracking system and excellent team work is imperative. The offender's unit staff and MACC educators must not allow the offender to get lost in the shuffle or slip through the cracks.

To reduce this possibility, MACC's Education staff has developed a tracking system. Each inmate has been identified as "having completed a GED or HSD" or "needing to complete a GED." Knowing
(Continued on page 37)



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SPECIAL NEEDS IN LITERACY

by Linda Bloomstadt, Correctional Teacher 1

When you discuss special needs in an academic setting, generally the topic will turn to students who have been identified as having learning disabilities. This is not always the case when you are looking at special needs in literacy within the Department of Corrections. Students identified as literacy students, those with less than a sixth grade education, often enter the education program with thoughts and fears that

stem from years of failure within the public school system. The needs of these students reach beyond teaching them to read and do math. DOC teachers must address attitudes, fears, and even physical barriers while equipping students with the academic skills needed to be more academically successful.

Within the Oklahoma DOC, there are individuals that are recognized as special needs, that is, having a mental, emotional, or physical disability. When

these individuals are placed in school, their TABE scores from LARC typically show correct placement to be in the Literacy class. In accordance with the resources available, teachers build on the skills of these students, but few lack the skills to score above the Literacy level on the TABE test.

It would be incorrect to assume that all students at the literacy level are low achieving students. Some were successful in school and almost neared graduation,

Howard McLeod Correctional Center - Special Needs Offenders

but quit or were expelled before attaining a high school diploma. Those students typically move through the Literacy program within a few months, brushing up on forgotten skills, before moving on to the ABE level of the GED program.

Others reached high school, but struggled for every grade, and quit out of frustration. These students may have been identified at an early age as having special needs and placed in school programs because they had circumstances in their lives that children cannot control, such as frequently relocating, resulting in school transfers, or socioeconomic hardships that hindered the ability to focus on school work. They do not lack ability, but there are certainly gaps in their education that have kept them from advancing academically. These are the students that need the most encouragement. They are the ones who enter our Literacy classes with baggage of apathy, fear, and hostility. DOC teachers help these students understand that as adults they can succeed academically in areas where they failed as kids and teenagers.

Physical hardships are among the special needs that are addressed in Literacy. Vision and hearing impairment, dental issues, and history of bodily injury contribute to the students' academic obstacles. As the Medical Unit addresses the physical needs of the offenders, it makes a positive impact on academic success. An example of this would be John. John needed ear surgery to repair holes in his eardrums due to childhood medical neglect before he could hear well enough to learn letter sounds. Denture repair was needed before he could correctly form letter sounds and words. As a man in his late forties who hadn't attended more than two years of school, John's world opened up as he began learning to read.

DOC teachers meet the academic needs of their students in the same way that public school teachers do; They provide encouragement, one-on-one and group instruction, level appropriate instructional materials, and a safe environment for asking questions and making mistakes.

Those students who have had negative public school

experiences need support to move from the attitude of, "I never could do this" to an attitude of, "I'm getting this". This is a large part of what a DOC teacher does for his/her students. Whether it's praise for completing an assignment or a certificate marking a goal, praise is an important factor for the successful transition from a reluctant student learner to an eager one.

Working individually with students, teachers make assignments and help students fill in their academic gaps. As students recognize and work according to their learning style, they naturally put themselves in an environment that promotes success. For some that means lots of one-on-one time, for others it means working within a small group, or getting alone and asking questions as needed.

The technology available in DOC classrooms contributes a great deal to the academic success of Literacy students by providing another resource medium. SMARTBoards provide the opportunity for whole class and individual gross motor activities. Document scanners allow teachers to make any book or worksheet page an interactive

(SMARTBoard) lesson. Computers and classroom software with prescriptive pre-tests tailor curriculum to each student's needs. The two software programs available throughout the Oklahoma DOC Literacy Programs are My Reading Coach and Aztec Learning System. The My Reading Coach allows one-on-one instruction and interaction with a student based on his/her needs. It does a tremendous job filling in the gaps of students' reading abilities in addition to having the capability to provide ground level knowledge for non-readers. The Aztec Learning System, as used in Literacy, encompasses mathematics, reading, and grammar. This program also provides one-on-one needs based interaction and gives immediate feedback.

Not all offenders who enter the GED Program enter at the Literacy level. According to TABE scores, some enter at the ABE and GED levels. All DOC teachers work to address the needs of their students to help insure the greatest level of success possible. ■

Correctional Officers Recognition

Wednesday, May 8, 2013
State Capital • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



On May 8, 2013, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections' 2012 Officers of the Year were recognized at the State Capitol. Pictured above are: (L-R) Justin Jones, Director, Oklahoma Department of Corrections; Sandy L. Hadley, Northeast District Community Corrections, Nowata Sub-Office, Community Corrections Division, Agency Probation and Parole Officer of the Year; James A. Nall, James Crabtree Correctional Center, Field Operations Division, Agency Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year; Howard D. Martin, Enid Community Corrections Center, Northwest District Community Corrections, Community Corrections Division Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year; James A. Kroth, Classification & Population, Central Transportation Unit, Field Operations Division, Agency Correctional Officer of the Year; and Maggi L. Williams, Oklahoma City Community Corrections Center, Oklahoma County Community Corrections/Residential Services, Community Corrections Division Correctional Officer of the Year.

2012
AGENCY
& Community
Corrections
Probation and
Parole Officer of
the Year



Sandy L. Hadley
Probation and Parole Officer III
Northeast District Community Corrections
Nowata Sub-Office
Community Corrections Division

Sandy L. Hadley received her Bachelor's degree in 1993 from Bartlesville Wesleyan University. She began her career with the State of Oklahoma at the Office of Juvenile Affairs in 1993 as a Juvenile Justice Specialist. In 2000, Ms. Hadley transferred to the Department of Corrections as a Probation and Parole Officer. During her time as a PPO, Ms. Hadley has been instrumental in maintaining counseling and treatment resources, serving at various times as an Acting Team Supervisor in addition to maintaining her regular caseload, and assisting with the training and mentoring of new officers. Ms. Hadley supervises Nowata County offenders in a single person office while assisting others within her district when needed. She is well respected by local law enforcement entities and courts.

Ms. Hadley has served on various boards through the years to include Big Brothers Big Sister, Boys and Girls Club, Systems of Care, Crime Stoppers, Bartlesville Police Reserves, Nowata Sheriff Office Reserves and the Victim Impact Panel.

2012
AGENCY
& Field Operations
Correctional Officer
of the Year



James A. Kroth
Correctional Security Officer IV
Classification & Population
Central Transportation Unit
Field Operations Division

Sergeant Kroth is a graduate of Wanette High School. He also attended Southwest Tech, and Mid-America Vo-Tech. In October of 1987, he was hired by the Oklahoma Department of Corrections at Lexington Assessment and Reception Center (LARC) and worked until January 31, 1993. He then reinstated to the Department on September 1, 1994, and has been at LARC since then.

Sergeant Kroth modified the Offender Management System's Transportation Movement Program, and in the past year, he completely updated the program making it more compatible and much easier to use. It is currently being used at 72 facilities. He also took on the challenge of remodeling the Lexington/CTU armory, making it a better system for accountability and efficiency with the security equipment.

Sergeant Kroth is well respected by his co-workers, supervisors, and the offenders. He can be relied upon to handle any given task and does his job with a high degree of professionalism, which in turn provides him a great deal of personal satisfaction. He is a CLEET-certified officer and is also a certified Basic CLEET instructor.

*In recognition of their outstanding service
and significant accomplishments.*



Maggi L. Williams
Oklahoma County CC/RS
Oklahoma City CCC



Jerry J. Louthan
Bill Johnson CC



Justin T. Marshall
Dick Conner CC



George M. Yandell
Eddie Warrior CC



Arnold R. Gibson
Howard McLeod CC



Mark D. Cathey
Jackie Brannon CC



Sharon D. Ailey
James Crabtree CC



Roy L. Weaver
Jess Dunn CC



Ross A. Hash
Jim E. Hamilton CC

2012 Correctional Officers Recognition



Brent McGinnis
John Lilley CC



Josh A. Kimbrell
Joseph Harp CC



Jesse L. Riley
Lexington A&R Center



Juan L. Sanchez, Jr.
Mabel Bassett CC



Kerry E. Chase
Mack Alford CC



Jonah I. Schweitzer
Northeast Oklahoma CC



Steve D. Gardner
Oklahoma State Penitentiary



Nina M. Silva
Oklahoma State Reformatory



Dennis E. Carrell
William S. Key CC



Crystal Lilly
Hillside CCC



Robert D. Jackson
Northwest District CC



Robert J. Stultz
Southwest District CC

2012
AGENCY
& Field Operations
Correctional Officer
Supervisor of
the Year



James A. Nall
Correctional Security Manager I
James Crabtree Correctional Center
Field Operations Division

Lieutenant Nall began his career with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in 1998 at James Crabtree Correctional Center. He is a graduate of Cherokee High School and attended college courses at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

Lieutenant Nall designed a PowerPoint presentation documenting quarterly interdiction and misconduct data which is now being used in all facilities and units. He was also instrumental in the creation and development of the Bridge Project, a program wherein offenders create blankets and wooden toys for donation to various community groups such as Toys for Tots and local nursing homes. This program received several Governor's Commendations and special awards during the 2005 Quality Team Day at the Capitol.

Lieutenant Nall is a Reserve Deputy Sheriff for Woods County. He is a well-respected member of the community as well as the James Crabtree Correctional Center. His leadership during his tenure as the President and Vice President of the Northwest Oklahoma Law Enforcement Association proved to other law enforcement groups that the Department of Corrections is staffed with highly respectable, dependable and professional employees.

2012 Community Corrections Division
Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year

2012 Correctional Officers Recognition



Howard D. Martin
Enid Community Corrections Center
Northwest District CC



Jason Pettus
Bill Johnson CC



Robert Womack
Classification & Population
Central Transportation Unit



Clarence E. McCloud
Dick Conner CC



Bryan Cox
Eddie Warrior CC



Kevin Angel
Howard McLeod CC



Leonard A. Howard
Jackie Brannon CC



Peter Richardson
Jess Dunn CC



Paul D. Pickle
Jim E. Hamilton CC



Kevin D. Britt
John Lilley CC

2012 Correctional Officers Recognition



Jerry W. Thompson
Joseph Harp CC



David J. Ashpaugh
Lexington A&R Center



Christina D. Birney
Mabel Bassett CC



Bradley W. Thomas
Mack Alford CC



Loyel D. Roland
Northeast Oklahoma CC



Vera E. Roberts
Oklahoma State
Penitentiary



Kevin J. Zender
Oklahoma State
Reformatory



Dan L. Smith
William S. Key CC



William P. Allen
Hillside CCC



Jerry W. Haynes
Oklahoma County CC/RS



Jane A. Wilkes
Southeast District CC



Jeremy L. Callahan
Southwest District CC



REMEMBERING PROBATION AND PAROLE OFFICER

Jeffery M. McCoy

by Genese McCoy

Probation & Parole Jeff McCoy was posthumously honored this summer at three different law enforcement events. Though ceremonies and honors can never replace Jeff, it was wonderful to see him and the other fallen officers remembered with such honor and respect that they all deserve.

**45TH ANNUAL
OKLAHOMA LAW
ENFORCEMENT
MEMORIAL SERVICE
May 10, 2013
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

We were very touched to see so many of Jeff's fellow workers from the Jeffery M. McCoy Central District Community Corrections and several other DOC employees in attendance (pictures on page 31). Jeff's name was read and his wife Megan, escorted by Team Supervisor Nate Brown, placed a flower on the wreath in Jeff's honor. Additionally, his name was added to the wall of fallen officers that is displayed in front of the Department of Public Safety. Jeff will be remembered and honored at this memorial ceremony for the next four years.

**NATIONAL POLICE WEEK
May 12-18, 2013
Washington, D.C.**

We were very honored to have NY Probation & Parole Officer Bob Masucci ride honoring Jeff in the Police Unity Bike Ride from NYC to DC. Bob rode with 2 bracelets on his arm with Jeff's name and EOW date. As the bicycle riders came in Jeff's father Pat, his brother Tony, and I waited with Bob's family. We found Bob among the hundreds of riders and after introductions Bob placed one of the bracelets on Pat's wrist (where it still remains).

Later that night at the National Police Officers Memorial, during a very moving candle light ceremony, Jeff's name was read along with the other 160 fallen officers of 2012. The thousands of

candles lit at the end of the ceremony to honor our fallen officers was an amazing and moving site. We were able to find Jeff's name engraved on the wall for fallen officers and were very moved to see Jeff's Aunt Marianne had made a beautiful wreath and placed it near his name to honor him. On the wreath was the quote from Winnie the Pooh, "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard," a very true statement for all of us. Our DOC Honor Guard took part in the ceremonies, making us all very proud. Along with Pat and I, Megan, Allie and Alex, our son Tony, daughter Kelli and her husband Scott along with our other granddaughter Kati, family from Maryland - Chicago - Virginia, friends, and a few co-workers from Jeff's office were also in attendance.

45TH ANNUAL OKLAHOMA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL SERVICE

Friday, May 10, 2013
Department of Public Safety • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



Pictured above: 1) Mary Fallin, Governor, State of Oklahoma; 2) Jeffery M. McCoy's family with Oklahoma Department of Corrections employees from the Jeffery M. McCoy Central District and Justin Jones, Director, Oklahoma Department of Corrections; 3) Sgt. Justin F. Echols, Oklahoma City Police Department sings the National Anthem; 4) Oklahoma wreath with red roses signifying Oklahoma's fallen heroes; and 5) Norman McNickle, President, Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police.

The next day we were honored to be taken via buses (and I must add here that it was amazing to see all traffic stop on the freeways in Washington DC to honor our fallen officers and families) to the lawn in front of our Nations Capitol Building where a ceremony was held to honor our fallen officers with President Barack Obama as the keynote speaker.

Following his speech President Obama spent some time speaking with some of the families of fallen officers; Megan, Alex and Allie were lucky enough to get a few minutes of his time to visit. The ceremony continued as President Obama placed a flower on the wreath to acknowledge all of the fallen officers; followed by each family's fallen officer

being named and the family placing a flower on the wreath. Nate Brown again was able to honor Jeff by acting as escort for Megan when she placed the flower on the wreath. We'd like to thank the local FOPs for assisting Megan and the kids with the cost of the trip.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

May 12-18, 2013
Washington, D.C.



Pictured above: 1) Jeffery McCoy's wife, Megan, and his son, Alex, find his name engraved on the wall for fallen officers ; 2: Alex McCoy (center front) stands with "Bobbies" from London, England; 3) Megan, Allie and Alex McCoy visit with the President of the United States Barack Obama; 4) Director Jones and Megan McCoy in front of the State Capitol in Washington, D.C.; 5) Genese McCoy (left), Pat McCoy (second from right) and Tony McCoy (right) stand with New York Probation & Parole Officer Bob Masucci who rode in honor of Jeff McCoy; 6) Oklahoma Honor Guard.

CORRECTIONAL PEACE OFFICERS FOUNDATION MEMORIAL May 14-16, 2013 Reno, Nevada

This was a very comforting memorial with two special services and several training sessions offered to the families, including kid's camp for Alex and Allie. During this time, our DOC Honor

Guard not only participated in the ceremonies, but Megan and I both had an Honor Guard Member assigned to assist us in any way possible; this sometimes included going to the hotel room to get our granddaughter Allie her purple blanket, or taking our grandson Alex to the restroom - - during awards dinners. During one ceremony, the

family was given framed U. S. and Oklahoma flags and a plaque to honor Jeff. A plaque honoring Jeff was also given to the Oklahoma Department of Corrections; Deputy Director Reginald Hines accepted the plaque for ODOC. We were honored to have Oklahoma Cabinet Secretary of Safety and Security Michael Thompson and his wife join us

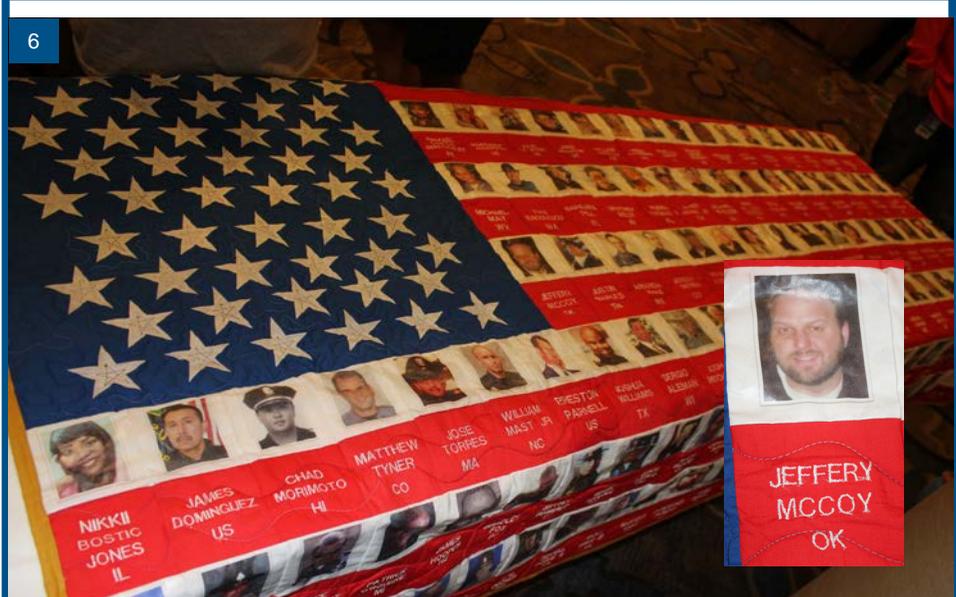
for the conference along with Deputy Director Reginald Hines, Ann Tandy and Debbie Moore. We cannot say enough about the emotional and financial assistance CPOF has extended to our families. Their motto, "Taking Care of Our Own" was certainly proven over and over.

To say the past year was difficult would be a huge understatement. However, with God's grace, the support of our family, friends and our DOC family, we did make it through the first year and our family is getting stronger every day. From Director Jones, to Jeff's fellow Probation & Parole Officers, the DOC Honor Guard, local FOPs, and several different DOC employees, we have received nothing but love and support and our family will be forever grateful to all of you. Not a day goes by that we don't think of Jeff and are saddened by our loss. We will never forget him, we will love him forever and we will never be the same without him, but we will continue forward because that is what Jeff would want and expect of us.

Jeff was a man of great faith, courage, and love and we hope to continue to honor him the rest of our lives. One of our steps in honoring Jeff will be September 13, 2013, when we host the First Annual Jeff McCoy Golf Memorial. The funds raised will go to scholarship(s) for DOC and peace officers or their children or grandchildren who are attending college in pursuit of a degree in criminal justice. ■

CORRECTIONAL PEACE OFFICERS FOUNDATION MEMORIAL

May 14-16, 2013
Reno, Nevada



Pictured above: 1) Quilted flag made to honor fallen officers (inset is Jeffery McCoy's photo and name as it appears on the flag); and 2) back row (L-R) Deborah Thompson, Michael Thompson, Commissioner, Oklahoma Department of Public Safety, Sgt. David Edelman, LARC, Lt. Catlin Holmes, MBCC, Lt. James Haun, KBCCC, Lt. Kevin Angel, HMCC, Reginald Hines, and Pat McCoy. Front row (L-R) Allie McCoy, Megan McCoy, Alex McCoy, Ann Tandy, Debbie Moore, Marlon Moore, Genese McCoy, and former DOC/JHCC employee Travis Ary.

2013 Department of Corrections Quality Team Day Awards

Governor Commendation and Best Booth Award Winner



TIE A YELLOW RIBBON MILITARY RECRUITMENT PROGRAM Oklahoma Department of Corrections Division III Institutions

Amy Madison, Cathy Pattison, Norma Tilley, Janet Weldon, Sherrie Tucker, Cindy Pate, Cristie Miller, Felecia Martin

Partners - LTC Warren Griffis, Program Director Employment Coordination Program, Oklahoma National Guard Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Angel Dominguez, Coordinator Transition Assistance Program, Vance Air Force Base

The Department of Corrections (DOC) faces serious recruitment challenges statewide. Oklahoma's unemployment is the sixth lowest in the nation, due to oil and gas drilling and production. Starting pay for oil and gas jobs can be as much as twice what a Correctional Officer makes, making it difficult to attract candidates for vacant positions. Another factor making it difficult to recruit is the federal restriction on ownership and use of firearms; anyone with a conviction for any federal crime, or any misdemeanor domestic violence, is prohibited from owning or using firearms. Since many of the department's security posts require the use of firearms, we cannot even consider those with a record, regardless of how far in the past the infraction occurred.

Governor Commendation Winner

JIM E. HAMILTON CORRECTIONAL CENTER DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION READING LAB INITIATIVE Oklahoma Department of Corrections Jim E. Hamilton Correctional Center

Dr. Barbara Tyson, Diane Adams

A team of volunteers and one teacher worked together to greatly increase the educational services to offenders at Jim E. Hamilton Correctional Center. The project involved creating partnerships with community businesses, utilizing volunteers, improving morale and services, and increasing the reading level of 93 offenders at one time with no additional cost to DOC. Dr. Barbara Tyson designed a computer lab to run with volunteer tutors, volunteer students, and a volunteer coordinator. A unique situation allowed offenders to work on reading improvements on a part time basis. Before the initiative, most offenders never got off the waiting list. Each offender completing a program or getting his GED resulted in saving money through early release and reduced recidivism. All improvement was documented and recorded.



2013 Department of Corrections Quality Team Day Awards

First 2013 Commendation Applicant



OKLAHOMA STATE REFORMATORY FAITH AND CHARACTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM Oklahoma Department Of Corrections Oklahoma State Reformatory

David Wortham, Gail Varnell, Donna Smith

Create Partnerships with Other Organizations - In an effort to partner with organizations and communities the Faith and Character Community Outreach program was established in 2008. Through the program, offenders have the opportunity to contribute to surrounding communities in a positive and constructive manner. The offenders achieve a sense of accomplishment and self worth which results in improved interaction with staff and other offenders. The Community Outreach program provides decorating and artwork for senior centers, hospitals, crisis centers, schools, churches, anti-drug campaigns and special events depending entirely on donations from community members. Projects included holiday decorations, hand painted posters, signs, crocheted toys, hats and blankets. Letters of appreciation were received from project recipients varying from families, schools, businesses and community centers.

First 2013 Booth-Only Application

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX Oklahoma Department Of Corrections Oklahoma State Penitentiary

Linda Morgan, Terry Crenshaw, Chasity Young, Cindy Pate

*Partners - Merchants and Citizens of the McAlester Area
who served as Community Recruiters*

On May 31, 2011, OSP found that the facility was short 35 correctional officers. The traditional methods of recruitment were not working. The facility took a "Thinking Outside of the Box" approach and developed recruiters from within the McAlester area community. The goal was to create a liaison for the community recruiters, initiate contact with the public, build working relationships, and recruit 35 new employees. By June 24, 2011, the facility was either in the hiring process or had hired 34 new employees within a three week period. The next goal was to retain them. This begins with initial orientation. Orientation involves all department heads, defining the philosophy and goals of the facility, and then assigning the new hires a mentor for on the job assignments. This project will be presented at the booth in a PowerPoint presentation that includes visual aids, photos, etc.



ACMI House Crisis Center

Receives Donations from Oklahoma State Reformatory (OSR)

by Linda Monks, Administrative Programs Officer I

The location of the ACMI House Crisis Center is known to only a few but the work and services it provides is known through the communities in southwest Oklahoma. This house is shelter to women and children trying to start a new life free of the fears that have dominated their lives. The fears I am talking about are domestic abuse and family violence. Many of the women and children who enter this shelter come with only the clothes they are wearing. Left behind are the clothes, hygiene items, and toys of their former life. When Donna Smith, Program Provider, for the Faith and Character Community Program (FCCP) at Oklahoma State Reformatory (OSR) heard of the need for these items she

quickly took action.

Mrs. Smith began by sending out a request to her fellow team members at OSR asking for donations of clothes and yarn. She then asked for volunteers from the offenders in her FCCP class to crochet different animals and characters for the children who are living at the ACMI House. A third step taken was an article in local newspapers requesting donations and setting up drop boxes at participating business for the donors' convenience. The outpouring of support was overwhelming and soon a date was set for the administrator of the ACMI House to come to OSR and pick up the donations.

It was cold and windy on April



9, 2013, when Brenda Willis, Administrator, visited OSR to pick up the donations. But the weather soon lost its bite as donations began to fill Ms. Willis' vehicle. In fact, there were so many that the overflow had to be placed in Mrs. Smith's vehicle. Pictured above are Brenda Willis(left) and Donna Smith(right) with some of the toys created by

the offenders at OSR. As you can see the quality of these pillows speak to the care that was taken to create them. Ms. Willis said thank you to all involved and we at OSR are proud to have Donna Smith as a member of our team. We also thank all the offenders who reached out to provide a smile to a child in need.

(Special Needs Offenders Cover Story, cont. from page 10)

or Death. The average predicted years left to serve is 19, which would be until age 69 or older. More than half have a Medical Acuity level which indicates moderate to severe disease. 456 have mental health levels (C1, C2, or D) which indicate significant disease (DOC Analysis Unit, 2013).

The cost of incarceration for offenders over 50 is estimated to be at least 3 times the cost of care for younger offenders (ACLU, 2011). The most recently reported information from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid revealed that the U. S. population average annual per capita cost of health care for ages 19-44 to be \$3,370; ages 55-64 is \$7,787; ages 75-84 is \$16,389; and ages greater than 85 is \$25,691 (CMS, 2004). This data reveals a doubling of costs by age 55, and more than doubling again by age 75.

DOC currently houses about 230 offenders who are confined to a wheelchair; 250 use a walker, cane, or crutches; 70 use some form of medical prosthesis; and 110 are significantly hearing impaired.

A recent survey of all offenders housed in DOC facilities was conducted by Medical Services. Criteria for special

medical housing were established, using current Medicaid nursing home guidelines and current DOC policy and practice. Following Medicaid screening criteria, at least 67 DOC offenders were thought to be appropriate for nursing home placement. This finding is consistent with the fact that DOC infirmary beds are full of patients with paralysis, dementia, and other chronic conditions which prevent their discharge from the infirmary bed back to general population. Using DOC criteria, 541 offenders (including female offenders) were thought to be appropriate for placement in housing similar to JHCC's "J-unit." Approximately 200 other offenders were thought to require some degree of modified housing due to their medical conditions.

Complex Illnesses

Not all sick offenders are elderly, and not all have multiple illnesses. HIV medications cost approximately \$1,500 per month. DOC houses about 140 offenders with a diagnosis of HIV. In addition to medication, HIV patients require close monitoring and periodic laboratory tests. All HIV patients who are appropriate for treatment are offered treatment by DOC. Approximately 25

The cost of incarceration for offenders over 50 is estimated to be at least 3 times the cost of care for younger offenders (ACLU, 2011).

to 30% of incarcerated individuals are thought to have Hepatitis C. To date, DOC has diagnosed approximately 1,500 cases of Hepatitis C among DOC offenders. Not all Hepatitis C patients are appropriate for treatment of their disease, but for those who are prioritized for treatment, the cost can be as high as \$100,000 per cure. DOC does offer treatment to carefully selected Hepatitis C patients (ODOC Medical Services Resource Manual 140137-06, 2013). LARC, MBCC, and other facilities house multiple offenders who are undergoing cancer chemotherapy or radiation therapy, or both. One offender, with only one significant medical diagnosis, is currently receiving medication which costs \$17,000 per week.

Prisons are not primarily designed for health care, the treatment of the mentally ill, or for meeting various educational or programmatic needs. The task of meeting the various needs of the offender population in a corrections environment is challenging and increasing in complexity. However, the end result is worth the effort. ■

Using DOC criteria, 541 offenders (including female offenders) were thought to be appropriate for placement in housing similar to JHCC's "J-unit." Approximately 200 other offenders were thought to require some degree of modified housing due to their medical conditions.

(JHCC Special Needs Offenders, cont. from page 11)

They learn stress management skills and coping skills for depression. Increasingly, the offenders are being educated about healthy use of leisure time. There is library on the unit with over 1,000 books as well as games and puzzles that the offenders can check out. Offenders move to ICHU from other facilities as well as MHU-2. Often they are referred for intensive re-entry services. They attend groups on co-occurring disorders and substance abuse, get their social security in place before discharge, and make contact with community based treatment providers. These teams are based in the community mental health centers in the metropolitan areas and are known as RICCT and PACT. They assist the offenders in finding housing and outpatient treatment once they are discharged from DOC.

When offenders stabilize on ICHU, offenders have multiple choices. Some offenders who came for re-entry services return home. However, most will discharge directly to the general population yard at Joseph Harp. The offender must demonstrate that he is capable of going to pill line and taking care of his hygiene needs for 3-6 months before transferring to another unit. In previous years, offenders were usually transferred to minimum or back to another medium yard after stabilizing on ICHU. However, many returned to JHCC and had to be admitted to the mental health unit because the transfer triggered a severe regression or the offender quit taking medication at the new facility. Individuals do not always recover to their previous level of functioning when this happens. By

demonstrating prior to transfer that they are willing and able to follow the recommended course of treatment, the offender earns the right to try a less restrictive environment.

Another special population housed at JHCC is the elderly and infirm. J unit, also known as the ADA unit, has 258 offenders living there. Many are in wheelchairs. Others are elderly or

have dementia or traumatic brain injury. Others have orthopedic impairments. These cases are extremely complicated and require collaboration between medical and mental health staff.

Finally, there is the developmentally delayed population at JHCC. There are approximately 80 of these men present on the yard at any one time. They have a cognitive impairment of some kind (such as traumatic brain injury) or have an $IQ \leq 70$ combined with deficits in adaptive functioning. By definition, most of these offenders are a high risk for victimization from other offenders. They simply lack the skills and resources to protect themselves from higher functioning predators.

Each of these special housing units has a qualified mental health professional (QMHP) assigned to it. The QMHP's

tasks vary from unit to unit. Groups on anger management, mental illness, co-occurring disorders or trauma (just to mention a few) are conducted to assist in adjustment to prison. For those offenders having a serious and persistent mental illness, re-entry services are available as they near discharge. The re-entry program previously mentioned has received national attention and acclimation as it cut recidivism rates

“Special needs offenders” is a broad category at JHCC. It encompasses the mentally ill, the mentally retarded, and the physically ill. The various and often competing needs of these special groups requires a high degree of collaboration and communication between security, mental health and medical.

by 50% for the mentally ill in the first year. The federal regional director of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) in Dallas, Texas recently visited and observed this program. He hopes to use it as a model for similar programs throughout the nation.

“Special needs offenders” is a broad category at JHCC. It encompasses the mentally ill, the mentally retarded, and the physically ill. The various and often competing needs of these special groups requires a high degree of collaboration and communication between security, mental health and medical. Despite its unique challenges, however, JHCC remains a highly desired placement among offenders as it earns its reputation as a “program yard.” ■

(MACC Special Needs Offenders, cont. from page 17)

that offenders are shipped beyond a fourth-grade level. in or out of MACC daily, the staff keep a close check on this data and update the movements often.

This procedure allows education staff to focus on the inmates that need to complete a GED. Presently MACC has 46% of their population that have not achieved a GED or High School diploma. Of that 46%, 183 function at literacy level. That means that these 183 offenders' academic levels are comparable to students in elementary schools (K-5th grade).

Offenders that are removed from education will be monitored and reassigned at a later time. As we all know, most offenders are going to be released from prison and will return to our communities to live. It is essential that the offender develop skills necessary to reenter that community and become a positive and productive member of what is now his community too.

Education is essential in order to provide opportunity for the offender to prepare himself for this phase of his life. According to a National Adult Literacy Survey 23% of the adult American population is functionally illiterate, lacking basic skills

This impacts our economy in the loss of industrial productivity due to lack of basic skills or limited skills.

Health is also impacted by illiteracy in that adults with low-level reading skills frequently suffer from health problems. The inability to read medical directions from their doctors, or prescription instructions or concerns, can cause additional medical issues.

The Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy states that children of disadvantaged parents begin their school life behind their peers. Think about it, almost one in four parents cannot help their elementary level child with their homework, because they are illiterate.

The popular television commercial that address tobacco by stating, "tobacco stops with me" should be expanded to the issue of illiteracy.

The citizens of Oklahoma should be proud that the Oklahoma Department of Corrections actively reduces the impact of illiteracy by improving our offenders' educational skills. ■

Wounded Warriors Softball Game

by Shawna Robinson, Secretary III
Eddie Warrior Correctional Center



Pictured above: (L-R) Kim Lynch Executive Director, Warden Sharon L. McCoy, Adam Colbert Program Manager, Phaedra Herron Human Resources and Leon Frost Unit Manager.

Inspiration, Perseverance, Discipline, Determination, Sacrifice, Character, Courage, Heroes, and All-American are all words used to describe the Wounded Warriors Softball Team. This team is made up of veterans and active-duty soldiers who have lost limbs while serving in the military after the events of September 11, 2001. The amputees include arm, above the knee, below the knee, bilateral below the knee, and foot. These young men and women have overcome the odds and are now competing in the sport they love.

The team competes in celebrity softball games to raise awareness which is a visual representation of the teams vision "Life without limbs is limitless."

Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center is proud to have given a donation of \$1,656.01 to Neighbors Building Neighborhoods to help bring the Wounded Warriors to Muskogee. On May 4, 2013, the team was scheduled to play a double header against the Veterans Affairs Staffers and the Muskogee Police and Firefighters. Unfortunately the games were cancelled on Saturday due to the weather. The game between the Wounded Warriors and the Veterans Affairs Staffers was played Sunday May 5, 2013, and the Wounded Warriors won. The staff of Dr. Eddie Warrior would like to thank Leon Frost, Unit Manager for taking a leadership role and organizing the donation drive for the facility. We would also like to thank Jacquie Bullock for umpiring the game Sunday morning.



BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEMBER GERALD W. WRIGHT

On May 29, 2013, Director Jones presented Mr. Gerald W. Wright an award for 2 years of dedicated service to the Oklahoma Board of Corrections.

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS *Launches New Website*



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July/August - Anniversaries

41 Years	Kim Moon Director's Ofc	Michael Mullin Bruce Cummings Barney Laird Randel Parker	JDC Training JCC Facility Class	Wayne Brakensiek Jackie Linville Mary McCoy Kenneth Morgan Debra O'Neal Jacquetta Searles James Silk Barbara Wintz Billy Moore Karen White Cynthia Falder Byron Herman Jeffrey Wise Paula Franks	OSP JEHCC Medical/Admin Elk City CWC JEHCC S.E. Dist CC Mangum CWC S.E. Dist CC MACC Central Dist CC Training NOCC NOCC BJCC	Vince McIver Kevin Newberry Susan Schrock Norman Wheeler Kim Rotelli Timothy Coppick George Eaves Bryan Few Howard Jones Terry Jones Lowell Kirby Johnny Lambert Timothy Owen Kenneth Yott Archie Barton	HMCC Internal Affairs Education/BJCC JHCC Communications Internal Affairs OSP JDCC OSR Agri Svcs/JBCC Hobart CWC OCI Mfg/JHCC OSP Internal Affairs EWCC
39 Years	Beverly Campbell Lester Young	Contracts/Acquis Comm Corr					
38 Years	James Martin	OSP					
36 Years	Mike Addison	JHCC					
35 Years	Lillie Bowler Richard Parish Teresa Sherman	JDC Tulsa Co Dis CC Ment Hlth/OCCRS					
34 Years	Sharon Owen Paul Lowrance Bertha Hespe Carol Cloud	N.E. Dist CC Agri Svcs/HMCC Personnel JHCC					
33 Years	Janna Hill Linda Morgan Micheal Carr Jamie Keef Susan Nicholson Renee Lamirand	Field Operations OSP N.W. Dist CC Private Prisons S.W. Dist CC Finance/Acctng					
32 Years	David Sirleaf Sheri Meeks	Central Dist CC Facility Class					
31 Years	Debra Vaughan Malcolm Darrough Diannia Wray Robert Gunn Russell Miller Pamela Anderson Deborah Dorris	HMCC Agri Svcs/JLCC Kate Barnard CCC N.E. Dist CC JEHCC Sentence Admin JHCC					
30 Years	Carolyn Rhone Bobby Nair Greg Williams Bruce Bornheim Kevin Moore Mark Englander	C Waters CCC Agri Svcs/NOCC Private Prisons OSR Sentence Admin Ment Hlth/JHCC					
29 Years	James Colbert Elizabeth Houston Carmen Jackson Cheryl Bryan Deloris Milton Lovie Byrd Eric Franklin	Private Prisons LARC C Waters CCC JDCC Kate Barnard CCC Programs Trtmt/Rehab Svcs					
28 Years	Mohsen Pourett Robert Wood Reginald Bradley Rosalie Bliss Sandra Estes Walter McConnell Patricia Sorrels	Departmental Svcs Medical/WKCC JDCC N.W. Dist CC OSP Inst Division III Med Adm/JDCC					
27 Years	James Starr Eldon Arnold, Jr. David Parker Steven Bredel Kathi Sappington Kenneth Skidmore Gary Elliott	Ment Hlth/JHCC EWCC Inst Division III Education/JCC Field Operations Personnel Legal					
26 Years	Claudia McCormick Starla Bradley Melinda Guilfoyle Terri Vogt Amma Beaver Deborah Burchfield Constance Cunningham Phillip Baker Michael Haddox Arthur Lightle Mike Lohrenz Carol Bunyard	Marshall Co CWC Medical/JHCC N.W. Dist CC N.W. Dist CC Mangum CWC Ment Hlth/MBCC Tulsa Co Dis CC Private Prisons JLCC OSP N.W. Dist CC Education/JHCC					
25 Years	Gary Alexander Robert Hazlewood Richard Kornele Gerry Spicer Vonda Burrell Richard Ewing Corry Flowers William Hull Mark Knutson Chris Morris Karen Powell Mark Graham Orval Bruster, Jr. Cheryl Baldwin William Collins Terry Kennedy	OCI Mfg/DCCC HMCC BJCC MBCC S.E. Dist CC JHCC S.W. Dist CC Med Adm/LARC Legal Agri Svcs/NOCC OSP DCCC S.E. Dist CC Central Dist CC OCI Mfg/JLCC OSP					
24 Years	Sandra Gandy Muriel Irwin Kelly Matthews Vernon Sanders Mary Bears	EWCC Training N.W. Dist CC JCC Programs					
23 Years	Johnny Blevins Karen Hart Kenneth Kays Lemuel Andrews Robert Copeland Harry Janis Scott Nunn Sterling Robertson Michael Rogers Thomas Sawyer Ronnie Thomas Eydie Youngblood David Egbert Stephen Gardner Donna Boone Katie Shea Bruce Brannon Rickey Fritcher Leon Frost Jacky Hallmark Ronald McIninch Alan Scott Annette Marzett Terry Graham	Internal Affairs Inst Division II Agri Svcs/NOCC LARC JHCC S.W. Dist CC JHCC HMCC JCC Elk City CWC OSR Sentence Admin Central Dist CC OSP Class/Programs Medical/LARC OSP MACC EWCC Marshall Co CWC OCI Mfg/MACC JLCC Comm Corr MBCC					
22 Years	Jimmie Davis II Billy Johnson J Kennedy, Jr. David Orman Stanley Rogers, Jr. Mark Silverthorn Matthew Speers Brenda Thompson Pam Collins Larisa Howell Thomas Dyer, Jr. Arjane Alexander Alva Beaver Greg Brown Tony Bryant Danny Delay Gary Jackson Van Leon Johnson III William Jones	OSP S.W. Dist CC OSP OSP OSP OSP OSP JEHCC MBCC JLCC WKCC Programs EWCC Transport/JLCC Training S.E. Dist CC HMCC Marshall Co CWC C Waters CCC DCCC					
21 Years	Mary Stebens Robert Denton Bradley Dunning William Savage Pamala Carter Jonathan Herlan Mary Seright Doyt Simmons Valerie Ward Granvel Tomlin Michael Yates Daniel Herell Timothy Dix Barbara Pratt	Med Adm/WKCC JCC Ardmore CWC Medical/OSP JDCC N.E. Dist CC S.E. Dist CC Agri Svcs/WKCC OSP DCCC N.E. Dist CC OCI Mfg/LARC OSP LARC					
20 Years	Steve Breckenridge Clarence McCloud Raymond Wyatt Betty Shelby Connie Lauen Scott Slater Karen Johnson Patricia Ormerod Shawn Chumley Johnny Dassler Lee Moody Paul Janis Nail Sakmari	DCCC DCCC EWCC OSP Altus CWC JBCC MBCC Personnel OSP OSP JBCC Altus CWC OSR					
19 Years	Fred Burris Kelli Gaffney Eric Gulbranson Gary Rhodes Ernest Washington Jerry Williams Judith Blount Mark Adams Mary Hand Richard Traylor Kevitt Vass Michael McMillen Sharon DeLana	LARC DCCC LARC OCI Mfg/OSP Hobart CWC HMCC Finance/Acctng Transport/JLCC DCCC MACC Transport/JLCC JHCC OCI Mfg/MACC					

CALENDAR

AUGUST

(No Board of Corrections Meeting Scheduled)

- 9-14 American Correctional Association
143rd Congress of Corrections
National Harbor, Maryland
- 12-16 Pardon and Parole Board Meeting
Hillside CCC

SEPTEMBER

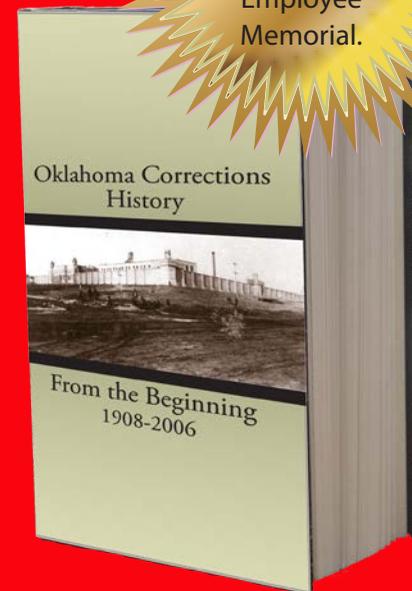
- 2 Labor Day
- 17-20 Pardon and Parole Board Meeting
Hillside CCC
- 27 Board of Corrections Meeting
William S. Key Correctional Center

OCTOBER

- 14-18 Pardon and Parole Board Meeting
Hillside CCC
- 25 Board of Corrections Meeting
Oklahoma State Reformatory
- 10-11 Oklahoma Correctional Association
- 31 thru Nov 1 National Association of Blacks in
Criminal Justice - Oklahoma Chapter

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Dick Conner Correctional Center (DCCC) - 24 Year Anniversary

The post Oklahoma State Penitentiary (OSP) riot master plan included a medium security facility to be constructed in the Tulsa area. It was eventually decided that the facility would be built just north of Hominy, Oklahoma, within the boundaries of the original Osage Indian Reservation. Originally, the facility was to be named the "Hominy Medium Security." It was next decided that the facility would be named Jess Dunn Correctional Center in honor of the former OSP warden killed in an escape attempt. However, a 1977 joint Senate-House resolution renamed the facility, for the third and final time, the Dick Conner Correctional Center. The facility's namesake is R.B. "Dick" Conner, a former local Sheriff of Osage County and former OSP warden. The facility was built for \$12.8 million. Dick Conner Correctional Center received its first offenders in August, 1979, and reached its original design capacity of 400 during the spring of 1980.

RETIREMENTS

NOVEMBER

Marvin Beck	Russell Golden	Russell Jones
Darrell Coston	Billy Hartley	Cynthia Newton
Fannie Glover	Larry Jiles	Marvin Sockey

DECEMBER

Debra Bonenfant	Michael Gillion	Perry Rawlins
Kathryn Boyd	Judith Jones	Connie Riley
Stefan Brown	John McMillin	Marvin Vaughn
William Coleman	Steve Moles	Linda Watson
Anita Fry	Henry Perrin	Evonna Young

NEXT ISSUE

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

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