IDOC Adult Advisory Board Minutes
July 21, 2014
Dixon Correctional Center

Attendance: Kendric Berry, Edna Lee, Phillip Whittington, Carlos Quezada-Gomez, Director S.A. Godinez, Assistant Director Gladys Taylor, Brad Curry, Richard Watson, Dr. Keith Lape, David Olson, Jesus Reyes, Edna Lee, Amber Bolden, Joni Stahlman, Christine Boyd, Pat McGuire, Steve Karr, Sharon Shipinski, Melvin Hinton, Christine Boyd, Steve Karr, Jason Garnett, Mike Atchison, Bryan Gleckler (call-in), Laura Kunard (call-in)

Visitors—Annette Tim, Gwyneth Troyer

Meeting began at 10:03 am

Reading of April 21, 2014 approval for minutes Sheriff Watson and Jesus Reyes 2nd the motion.

Assistant Director Taylor:

- The Department is planning the cutover from the Offender Tracking System (OTS) to Offender 360 in less and 30 days. Currently, all staff is being trained to merge from OTS to Offender 360.

Education, Christine Boyd: Waiting on her piece

- Approximate Statewide Waiting list for GED is 1,668 and ABE 3,683
- There is still a shortage on facility librarians due to getting qualified staff to fill these positions. Currently there are 26 positions in Adult Education on the vacancy list
- In FY’14, 2,227 vocational certificates were distributed and 208 Offenders received their Associates Degrees.
- The facilities stopped giving GED tests at the end of November until computers could be installed due to going to the National mandate of computerized testing. The first computers were placed at Vandalia. Computers will eventually be in all facilities to allow our Offenders to take the computerized exam4 facilities out of 33 have computers which we are waiting for CMS are responsible for bringing the computers into the facilities.
- The GED diploma has been renamed nationally to the “High School Equivalency” diploma. The Illinois Community College Board work with our legislation to get the correct term in Illinois statute.
- Christine provided a listing of the current vocational program available at each facility.
Fiscal Year 2014 - The Illinois Department of Corrections requested a supplemental appropriation totaling $45.3 million in order to fully fund all of the Department's expenses in FY14. Although the Department was consistent with our request and testified on it numerous times, the General Assembly failed to fully appropriate this amount. Instead, they appropriated $20.5 million to the Department and $15.0 to CMS with the intent that CMS would use the fund to cover IDOC's expenses incurred for vehicle leases, telecommunication expenses, and charges associated with electronic data processing functions performed by CMS. The end result for IDOC is that approximately $15.4 million in expenses will be forced to roll over from FY14 and into FY15. These expenses are: $8 million due to Illinois Correctional Industries (ICI), $5 million due to CMS, and $2.4 million for statewide hospitalization.

Employee Back Pay - The General Assembly did recognize the Department's need for a supplemental appropriation required to pay respective bargaining unit employees their back pay due to collective bargaining unit wages being frozen in FY12 and FY13. While they did not provide a supplemental to cover the entire amount due, they did appropriate enough to pay every employee due back wages approximately 40% - 45% of the remaining liability. The Department is working with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to have these payments to the employees within the coming weeks. The total amount of back pay is 81.4 million.

Fiscal Year 2015 - The General Assembly failed to recognize the need for sustained revenues required for a sufficient budget for FY15. This resulted in an operating budget for the Department's that can only be described as an “incomplete budget”. This incomplete budget places IDOC in the hole approximately $90 million dollars from what our true need is in order to fully operate IDOC in a safe and secure environment. Furthermore, the cuts enacted to our budget eliminated the funding for our enhanced investment in re-entry programming, opening up the former IYC Murphysboro as a correctional center for the segment of our population who are low-level DUI offenders in
need of programmatic support, elimination of $1 million repair and maintenance funds that would have leveraged $3 million in grant funds for energy upgrades throughout our system, and no new capital appropriations passed for any of the approximate $1.5 billion worth of capital projects that should be addressed within our facilities.

Mental Health Care, Dr. Hinton

- Release planning is a dynamic process and a critical component of overall treatment planning. Clinical documentation regarding mentally ill offenders must address community reintegration. Offenders’ needs for pharmacological and/or non-pharmacological treatment after release must be clearly indicated in clinical documentation.

The fundamental goals of discharge planning are:

- To help increase public safety
- To help reduce recidivism
- To assist offenders in acquiring the life skills they need to succeed in their community
- To increase the mentally ill offender’s awareness of the symptoms of their illness
- To increase the mentally ill offender’s awareness of how to care for their illness and to maintain their highest level of functioning after release
- Increase the offender’s knowledge of the community resources available
- To direct the offender in ways to avoid breaking the law

The discharge process at every facility must consistently involve the completion of the following steps for each individual attempting to reintegrate into the community:

- Accurately assess the offender’s needs, using a multidisciplinary team approach
- Assess the risks of return to the community
- Develop a plan for the treatment required to address the offender’s needs
- Identify community programs available to address the identified needs
- Coordinate a transitional plan with the community based program prior to release

Upon notification that a mentally ill offender is within 180 days of his or her projected release date, Mental Health staff will gather the following information:

- Diagnosis
- List of medications (if applicable)
- Need for follow-up services (as specified in the treatment plan)
- Community treatment provider information (if identified in mental health history)
Any additional information necessary for continuity of care during the reentry process

The multidisciplinary team will then review the offender’s static risks and dynamic needs. Domains of needs to be assessed include:

- Education
- Marital/Family
- Associates/Social Interaction
- Substance Abuse
- Community Functioning
- Personal/Emotional Orientation
- Attitude
- Employment
- Upon release, the offender is to be provided with a 14-day supply of all medications prescribed for the treatment of psychiatric conditions and a prescription and a prescription for an additional 14-day supply. Each facility should have a designated process for securing these medications and distributing the same to the offender. In the event that a release is not preplanned, the offender will be given the medication that is available at the facility. The Health Care Unit Administrator is to be notified in the event that the entire 14-day supply is not provided to the offender. The balance of the medication is to be sent to the released individual or distributed by a local pharmacy.

- By law, all offenders have the right for mental health attention.
- A challenge is identifying individuals and putting them the correct level of care.
- Illinois is ranked the 4th largest cut in the U.S. for mental health.

**Parole/Placement Resource Unit, Chief Jason Garnett**

- When an inmate fails to provide an approvable address to IDOC, field services will notify the Parole Re-Entry Group (PRG). PRG then will begin the process of finding a host site for the inmate.

- FY11-FY14
  - FY 11 – 8,637 offenders
  - FY 12 – 9,317 offenders
  - FY 13 – 10,144 offenders
  - FY 14 – 4,738 (as of December 31, 2013, the rest of the numbers are being compiled)
Currently there are approximately 400 beds that the State is funding statewide. There are 33 active contracts that provide housing. Out of the 33 housing contracts, 18 of those fall under substance abuse and/or recovery.

Placement Resource Unit (PRU) will place with shelters that have other funding.

Contracts are formed through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The Department will sometimes solicit for contracts, or housing providers will solicit the Department.

Factors that are considered by the PRU when placing an inmate includes; Offense history, discipline record, prior behavior on parole (prior offender), mental health, response to medications, social settings.

**PRU Budget**

FY 14 Budget - $4,744,000  
FY 13 Budget - $4,100,000

Offenders can submit a halfway house as a home site if the offender is able to pay for in which PRU will verify the host site.

Currently PRU is researching data on how many “non-sex offenders” who have been delayed a release beyond their Projected Parole Date due to the inability of PRU to procure home site.

Less than 5% are **not sex offenders** held at the door violators due to lack of placement for duration of MSR.

1,148 sex offenders are held for duration of Mandatory Supervised Released (MSR) because of lack of available post release housing yearly.

**Planning and Research, Steve Karr**

As a continuation of explaining prison population trends, prison exits were described in terms of average length of stay and good conduct awards. Historically, there are very little changes year-to-year in prison exit average length of stay, except for the serious violent offenses like murder, criminal sexual assault, and aggravated battery. Most of the change in these three offenses is attributed to Truth-in-Sentencing enacted within the Illinois Compiled Statutes, whereby the majority of offenders have not had an opportunity to be released yet. For example, those inmates convicted for murder offenses after August 1998 cannot be released until at least calendar year 2018 because they must
serve 100% of their sentence. Inmates convicted of other TIS serious violent crimes serve 85% of their sentence, and there are many inmates serving sentences for the long end of the range within a specific offense class. For example, Class X offenders will serve more than 22 years on a 30-year sentence.

- The next table describes the average amount of good conduct credits applied to prison exits. The data reveal that the average number of days of good conduct credit applied to prison exits has been fluctuating since the reimplementation of good conduct credit awards. Currently, the average awards applied are on the decline having a limited impact on average length of stay. Primarily, this is due to screening processes after enactment of supplemental and program sentence credit were enacted during January 2010.

- The next table lists the number of annual technical parole violation admissions since FY05. Over the last ten years there has been considerable fluctuation, but overall these type of admissions has been steadily declining. The number of FY14 technical parole violations was the second-lowest since FY05.

- The final table provides court admissions by committing county and offense class for FY13 and FY14. These data show limited changes from county-to-county, but they also show what would be considered most obvious: The greatest number of court admissions come from Cook County, followed by the five collar counties (DuPage Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will). There are variations among the offense classes as well which would take too long to go over here. However, the key to remember is that the Department is monitoring these data continuously to determine prison population trends and impacts that help to make estimates and develop forecasts.

**Chief Curry Supplemental Sentence Credit**

- Chief Curry sent Supplemental Sentence Credit letter out to all county sheriffs and only received one letter back. Currently, there is no long term population for county.

- Almost all of the counties are awarding the Pretrial Program Credits (PSC). Offenders can earn .5 days (minimum 60 days program participation) for each day they are in a program. This was included in the statutory language that amended MGT/SMGT to Supplement Sentence Credits (SSC). Assistant Director Taylor stated her and her team is working on credits showing up on 360.
Rodent/Bird Issue in F-House at Stateville CC, Deputy Director David Gomez

- Pest control sprays all cell housing units are sprayed at least once a month and more as needed.
- Humane traps are in areas where inmates do not frequent such as tunnels, abandon structures and other fenced off areas
- Rodent sticky and JAWZ traps are in housing and offices. These traps are checked daily and replaced by either maintenance or pest control.
- All areas are checked daily by a zone supervisor in their safety and sanitation inspection and documented.
- All areas are cleaned daily
- Cleaning agents and equipment is available for inmates to use for routine cleaning.
- All cells and housing units are in the process and on schedule for sealing and painting. (all supplies are in with exception of paint)
- Deputy Director Gomez is waiting for the statistics of grievances that has been filed

Update Date on Menard –PREA litigation cannot be discussion at this time.

No old business
11:45am Adjourn Meeting by Chair Keith Lape