

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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**HELP
MAKE
THINGS
RIGHT**

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F.Y.I. is a publication of the Michigan Department of Corrections, Office of Public Information and Communications. Please submit articles through your supervisor to Edna Plath at plathe@michigan.gov.

NEW MOTTO MAKING AN IMPRESSION

At the Corrections Academy graduation ceremony November 7, 2014, at Jackson College, Provost Rebekah Woods took the department's new motto to heart as she congratulated the new officers for their hard work and the opportunity awaiting them.

Before her speech, Woods had noticed the department's billboard along U.S. 127 that includes the new motto, and thought about the ways corrections officers "help make things right."

In her remarks to the graduating class, she told the officers they will be helping to make things right for victims who will know that those who have hurt them are behind bars. And that the new officers will help make things right "by protecting communities from criminals and allowing all of us to feel safer."

"You also help make things right by helping to give those individuals who have made bad decisions along the way an opportunity to pay for their mistakes, to turn their lives around, and to have a second chance to become a productive part of our community," she said.

These new officers will have an opportunity at MDOC to make a difference in the lives of many, she said.

In announcing the new motto back in June, MDOC Director Dan Heyns explained that we "help make things right" when we embrace the department's multifaceted purpose to create a safer Michigan while also working to rehabilitate offenders to increase their chance of success in our communities so they won't recidivate and revictimize.

That is what the new motto is all about.



SCORECARDS AND METRICS

September 14, 2014, marked an important milestone for the Department of Corrections' Technical/Disability Management Unit - 100% completion of its efforts in centralizing disability management operations within the Department. Disability Management oversees the processing of Workers' Compensation claims, Leaves of Absences (LOA) and Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) usage by Department employees.

Prior to February 2010, disability management was performed by each of the local Human Resources offices across the Department and across the state. Since February 2010, the Technical/Disability Management Unit has progressively centralized this work from all work locations, in order to streamline the processing of the approximately 1,150 disability management claims received per month. Throughout this centralization process, unit staff utilized monthly analysis and progress reports including Department scorecards and metrics, in order to maintain a constant momentum. By identifying meaningful, measureable and moveable measures, the unit ultimately achieved a 100% completion of its disability management centralization.

HEALTHY MICHIGAN

Parolees on the road to a successful reentry may be faced with unexpected challenges, however access to medical care is no longer an issue. As of April 1, 2014, many parolees and probationers who may have not previously had the means to afford healthcare coverage now have access through the Healthy Michigan Plan. Through partnership with St. John Providence Health System, the MDOC Wayne County Prisoner Reentry and Region 10 Parole staff were able to assist nearly 200 parolees and probationers with securing preventative healthcare, dental, and vision insurance during an onsite enrollment event at the Lawton and Lincoln Park Parole offices. Many parolees expressed they were happy that the MDOC provided this service onsite at the parole office eliminating the need to wait in long lines at other locations. Through the partnership with St. John Providence Health System, several other enrollment events are planned to ensure all parolees/probationers will have an opportunity to obtain this valuable resource. The efforts of Lead Agents Sonya Beard, Carol Davenport, Michele Glazewski, Kawana Keys, and Heather Zimmerman made the event a huge success.

If interested in conducting an event at your office, please contact Prisoner Reentry Specialist Janella Robinson for more details

robinsonj24@michigan.gov

To learn more about Healthy

Michigan visit: <http://>

www.michigan.gov/healthymiplan



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EPIC

EFFECTIVE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Fleet Transportation Team

The Fleet Transportation Team's aggressive efforts for more video conferencing has resulted in a savings of more than \$6.1 million to date. The Fleet Transportation team was originally formed in 2008 to reduce the number of prisoner transports that were taking place. At that time, more than 125,000 transports were taking place annually. Not only was there a significant cost in leasing vehicles, staff overtime and fuel, but safety concerns were also a major element for pushing for change.

One of the team's approved recommendations was to advocate directly with the courts for more video options, thereby reducing the number of trips between the MDOC and courts throughout the state. That effort resulted in the drafting of rules by the Michigan Supreme Court Administrator's Office to further incentivize courts to use video conferencing. Those rules are currently being reviewed.

Not willing to wait, the Department began to advocate for video conferencing on its own. That initiative has resulted in consistent annual savings. In FY 2011, \$527,150 was saved by having 811 video conferences in lieu of transport; FY 2012, \$983,450 with 1,513 conferences; and FY 2013, there were 3,074 video conferences which broke the million dollar mark with \$1,998,100 in savings.

For fiscal year 2014, there were 4,058 court hearings where a videoconference was held rather than transporting that prisoner by vehicle. At an average cost of \$650 per transport, video conferencing saved the department \$2,637,700. The cost of the equipment to date has been \$1.5 million, making the net return on video conferencing a very valuable alternative to traditional MDOC transportation.

This isn't the first success the *Fleet Transportation* team has achieved. Since its inception, the Team reduced those 125,000 annual trips noted above to less than 37,000; decreased overtime; eliminated more than 130 vehicles; and designed and implemented the "Strip-Drop-Chain-and Go" (SDCAG) which has expedited the process for picking up and transferring prisoners, files, and property between facilities.

Working together, improved parole release processes between the Correctional Facilities Administration and the Field Services Administration have reduced the need for the department to transport prisoners to their parole site from 42% of prisoners down to 24%. The transportation expenditures in 2009 equaled \$27,745,082 and were reduced to \$22,189,973 by 2013.

In addition to measuring the results of their work through a specialized audit sub-team, the team is now reviewing additional opportunities involving medical scheduling, transfers related to Reentry In-Reach facilities and programming, new methods of marking prisoner property, and the bar coding of prisoner property being transferred.

EPIC "MAILBOX"

The EPIC Office and the Leadership Team are pleased to announce the creation of the EPIC mailbox. The purpose of the EPIC mailbox will be one of the repositories for new ideas, suggestions and recommendations from MDOC staff for process improvements within the department. MDOC-EPIC@michigan.gov

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EFFECTIVE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

NEW EPIC TEAM TAKES ON REVIEW OF THE PRISONER INTAKE PROCESS

The *Prisoner Intake* Team has been assembled and is up and operating! While the Team was originally formed to tackle the recommendations of August 14, 2014 Auditor General's report (based on its performance audit covering the period of the August 1, 2010 through September 30, 2013), leadership embraced the opportunity to conduct a complete appraisal of the effectiveness and efficiency of the MDOC prisoner intake process.

The Team first initiated a "*Gemba*" walk – a lean process improvement term that refers to "taking a walk" to better understand the operations it is looking at. Team members walked through the Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center, Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility as well as the Detroit Reentry Center and Detroit Detention Center to observe the intake processes as they currently exist at each facility.

The team has now begun the tedious work of dissecting the intake process at each facility. This will assist in establishing efficiencies and consistencies for the intake process regardless of which facility the offender is processed.

Gary Salwin has been appointed the Initiative Manager and Brad Haynie, CFA Classification Specialist, is the Team Lead. Team members are: Julie Rudolph, Rebecca Geraghty, Cynthia VanLake, Michael Baker, Marguerite Howard, Tom Burris, Teri Taylor, Karen Majchrowski, Mike Barrett, Jennifer Tellez, Erika Bell, Jimmy Waters, Jacqueline Allen, Roderick Kilgore, Sheila Tyus, Judy Crisenbery, Kim Cargor, Kristy Closser, Christine Klee and Nichole Hardman. Chris Kamrada, Michigan State Industries, who is a Green Belt Certified Lean Process Improvement Specialist is assisting the team along with Brock Deitrich, Initiative Manager of the *Electronic Monitoring* Team.

Seeking EPIC Liaisons!

The EPIC Office and the Leadership Team are pleased to announce the creation of the role of an *EPIC Liaison* at each correctional facility and FOA office as approved. The EPIC Liaison will become the communication link between the EPIC Office, EPIC Teams and Leadership.

The role of the EPIC Liaison will be to share information about EPIC, process improvement, employee engagement on EPIC teams and the results of team actions as they occur. The amount of time the EPIC Liaison will spend in this role will vary per individual, but we will ask for no more than 4 hours per month.

Each Warden and appropriate FOA Administrator is asked to appoint one person as the local EPIC Liaison by November 15. The EPIC Office will follow up with each Warden and Administrator. The local EPIC Team Lead may also act as the Liaison.

The EPIC Liaison should possess excellent communication skills and an understanding of EPIC and process improvement, and a desire to promote both within the department. The EPIC Office will be happy to assist with educating the Liaison on EPIC and process improvement.



BELLAMY CREEK CORRECTIONAL FACILITY STAFF HELPING OTHERS

Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility staff participated in Harvest Gathering 2014 with great success. Food and supplies were brought in along with staff participating in casual days to raise money for the cause. Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility staff donated 220 pounds of dry goods and \$472 which was all donated to the Zion Methodist Church Food Pantry.



On October 24, 2014, Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility staff held a cookout to raise money for corrections officer Eric Meyers who has cancer. Meals were delivered to staff at other Ionia facilities who wished to participate raising \$1,530.

Above photo Left to Right: Leon Ward, John Fears, Will Smith, Mark Horrocks, Al Augustine, Jeff Leslie, Lonnie Pohl, Josh Strouse, John Nicewicz, and Doug Welton.

Below photo Left to Right: Al Augustine, Will Smith, Justin Hawley and Kim Bennett.

Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility staff also hosted a cookout on November 7, 2014, to raise funds for officer Brad Monk whose 15 year-old son passed away. The Ionia area facilities all participated to help raise \$1,220 for Brad's family.





LAKELAND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY GOLF OUTING

The Employee Club of the Lakeland Correctional Facility recently partnered with the Branch County Sheriff Department to hold a golf outing in support of the Sheriff's Department's "Shop With A Cop" program for underprivileged children.

The outing was held on September 26, 2014, at Turtle Creek. Forty people participated in 18 holes of golf, lunch, and prizes raising \$2,750.

Left to right: Kim Russell, Lisa Stout, Warden Bonita Hoffner, John Morrell, Undersheriff Keith Eichler, and Jail Administrator Fred Blankenship from the Branch County Sheriff Department.



KALAMAZOO PAROLE/PROBATION STAFF RAISE MONEY FOR AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

For the Kalamazoo Parole/Probation Office, Breast Cancer Awareness Month took on a special meaning. One of their colleagues, Agent Vonnie Hiller, was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. As Agent Hiller continues to fight this disease with courage and strength her co-workers rallied around her and found meaningful ways to participate in the fight themselves. On October 15, 2014, Supervisor Lara Neuman, Agents Cindy Bowden, Amy Hill, and Vonnie and Jerry Hiller spearheaded a "pink" luncheon to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The group grilled hotdogs and provided additional side dishes

which they offered for a \$5.00 donation. Ronda Schabes baked delicious scones which she sold for a donation also. The office as a whole also participated in a special jeans day with all donations going to the American Cancer Society. Supervisor Neuman also formed a team to participate in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk that was held in Kalamazoo on October 17, 2014. In total, the office raised \$690 to donate for the fight against cancer.



Left to Right: Dawn Poremba, Vonnie Hiller, Amy Hill, Jerry Hiller, and Amy Shaffer.



HARVEST GATHERING AT CARSON CITY CORRECTIONAL



The Carson City Correctional Facility employees came together to help assist those in need and with great success. The staff was able to gather 774 pounds of food and household supplies for the Harvest Gathering initiative. A staff bake sale and monetary donations came to \$449. The Carson City Correctional Prisoner Benefit Fund also donated \$500. All goods and monetary donations were received by the Carson City Food Pantry.

Left to Right: Deputy Warden David Fenby, Deputy Warden Laura Krick, GOA Carrie Chaffee, Warden Cathy Stoddard and Administrative Assistant Jacque Koenigsnecht

HARVEST GATHERING AT EATON COUNTY PAROLE/PROBATION

Eaton County Parole/Probation staff reached out to other Eaton County Offices to join in the effort to gather non-perishable food items for the Michigan Harvest Gathering. The total amount of food collected and turned over was over 270 pounds.



Left to Right: Scott VanOrder, Jarrett Hale, Todd Brunner, Kristin Keydel, Leslie Benoit, and Dayton Driver.

HARVEST GATHERING AT SAGINAW CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



Saginaw Correctional Facility staff raised \$2,084 for the Harvest Gathering this year. Audrey Karnes spearheaded this year's drive utilizing potlucks, casual days and employee donations. The self-imposed goal for the facility was \$2,000. Through Audrey's hard work and the generosity of staff, they were able to not only meet their goal but exceed it as well!

Pictured: Audrey Karnes



WARDEN CATHY BAUMAN RECOGNIZED FOR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS WITH SPECIAL OLYMPICS MICHIGAN

Warden Cathy Bauman of Alger Correctional Facility received the Special Olympics Michigan "SPIRIT" award on November 8, 2014, at the Special Olympics Michigan Hall of Fame Banquet. This award was established to recognize an individual involved with Special Olympics Michigan who has had a positive impact on the program and represents the "SPIRIT," sportsmanship and the love of sports, respect and acceptance of persons with intellectual disabilities and sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with the athletes, their families and community.

Cathy has been involved in Special Olympics for over 30 years. She has a sister, Christina that is a Special Olympian athlete. Cathy volunteers and has helped coordinate the Special Olympics Winter Games held in Newberry for the last 10 years. Cathy is found running alongside the athletes as they ski or snowshoe in knee-deep snow to encourage them to keep going.

Cathy has also participated in the Special Olympics fund raiser Bike/Walk around Mackinac Island for the past 15 years. She makes sure all athletes are safe and follows behind 50 bikers making sure everyone returns back to the park safely, while also taking pictures.

Cathy has always encouraged her staff to volunteer or fundraise for Special Olympics. Some of her staff has been active in the Law Enforcement Torch Run which raises money for Special Olympics Michigan.



Pictured Left to Right: Joan Aikens, Cathy Bauman, Christina Paquin, and Emily Bauman.

MDOC BLACK KNIGHTS VS. MICHIGAN WARRIORS

The Black Knights took on the Michigan Warriors at John Lindell Ice Arena Saturday, November 1, 2014. With a 5-3 win, the Black Knights finally have a win in the record books. It was a complete team effort with goals from Deb Moses, Aaron Hundt, Matt Sissen and Paul Raymond. Dan Chepeska was all over assisting on two separate goals. The teams were evenly matched and it made for a great game. The Warriors have already asked for a rematch and the Black Knights are happy to oblige. The Warriors want to thank everyone for the equipment and monetary donations. The equipment will be used very soon; they are still building and have a couple new players starting.

The Black Knights will be playing the Detroit Police/Fire team January 31, 2015, at the Mount Clemens Ice Arena for the 2nd annual Hammond charity hockey game. Game starts at 7:30 pm and donations will be collected at the door and all proceeds will go to the college funds of Clarence Hammond's two sons.



MICHIGAN STATE INDUSTRIES AND INGHAM COUNTY SOBRIETY COURT FOUNDATION

For the past two years, Michigan State Industries has assisted the Ingham County Sobriety Court Foundation. The Ingham County Sobriety Court Foundation, formed in 2007, consists of four courts in Ingham County. A team approach is used to address issues of substance abuse for those who have been arrested for drinking related driving offenses and is an intensive program that entails nearly two years. These courts have saved more than a million dollars of jail-bed space.

Michigan State Industries through its license plate operations at the Gus Harrison Correctional Facility and garment factory at Kinross Correctional Facility have provided gifts for the annual Ingham County Sobriety Court Foundation Breakfast. Will Rondeau and his staff at Gus Harrison provided coasters made from recycled license plates with the Foundation logo emblazoned on each.

Meanwhile, this year the garment factory supervised by Charleen Scott created 125 bookmarks made from material donated by the Prior Life Company which is located in Traverse City. Prior Life was created as a green initiative for Britten, Inc. also of Traverse City and one of the largest producers of banners in the United States creating banners for stadiums, concerts and malls. Thousands of old banners get thrown away and forgotten every year.

At Prior Life, disposed banners are turned into beautiful handbags, cardholders and other products of real value, and were put to great use this year as a gift for supporters of the Ingham County Sobriety Court Foundation.

BATTLE CREEK PAROLE CLEAN-UP

On October 17, 2014, the Battle Creek Parole Office in collaboration with the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department, Michigan Department of Transportation and the Kalamazoo Probation Enhancement Program (KPEP) teamed up to clean-up. A heavily traveled route of M-66 leading into downtown Battle Creek was in desperate need of attention. Michigan Department of Transportation Maintenance Superintendent Rick Hassenzahl requested assistance with clearing debris from the median and roadsides to enhance visibility and safety while improving the image of this prominent community thoroughfare. Sixteen offenders comprised of parolees, jail inmates and KPEP residents collected 52 bags of trash.





SEPTEMBER 2014 RETIREMENTS

Akers, Lanny.....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Allen, Gerald.....	Detroit Reentry Center
Austin, Pamela	Baraga Correctional Facility
Ballou, Blaise	Oaks Correctional Facility
Beam, Gregory	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Beardslee, Shree.....	Richard Handlon Correctional Facility
Beaudoin, Ronald	Kinross Correctional Facility
Bernath, Jeffrey	Michigan Reformatory
Bird, James.....	Earnest Brooks Correctional Facility
Brugman, James	Marquette Branch Prison
Bushard, Larry	West Shoreline Correctional Facility
Chadwick, Marilyn	Kinross Correctional Facility
Chambers, Reginald	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Choryan, Barbara	Richard Handlon Correctional Facility
Conner, Rose	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Croyle, Randy.....	Ionia Correctional Facility
Davis, Willie	Carson City Correctional Facility
Drouin, Lyne	Kinross Correctional Facility
Duncan, Dale.....	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Ford, Norma	Detroit Reentry Center
Gerard, Dennis	Baraga Correctional Facility
Gerth, Denise	Alger Correctional Facility
Hamilton, James.....	Detroit Reentry Center
Hazen, Steven	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Hodges, George	Detroit Reentry Center
Honzik, John.....	Ojibway Correctional Facility
Hoopes, Michael.....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Humphreys, Daniel	Carson City Correctional Facility
Kallio, Deborah	Kinross Correctional Facility



September Retirements cont'd.

Klinkhammer, John	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Kolka, Harry	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Lewis, Rick	Newberry Correctional Facility
Locher, Linda	Grandview Plaza
Lowden, Brett	Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Maynard, Phillip	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Michalski, Steve	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Nelson, Molly	Carson City Correctional Facility
North, Gene	Oaks Correctional Facility
Pickle, Michael	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Piontek, Dennis	Newberry Correctional Facility
Reffner, Cynthia	Detroit Reentry Center
Rotter, Michael	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Ruesink, Edward	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Schneider, Edward	Carson City Correctional Facility
Shilling-Croston, Don	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Shonamon, James	Parnall Correctional Facility
Smith, Sean	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Tenney, Joseph	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Thompson, Andrew	Kinross Correctional Facility
Traynor, Donald	Kinross Correctional Facility
Trierweiler, Wayne	Alger Correctional Facility
Trudell, Randy	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Turner, Paul	Baraga Correctional Facility
Weidmann, Leon	Kinross Correctional Facility
Williams, George	Richard Handlon Correctional Facility
Winters, Rodney	Thumb Correctional Facility
Worden, Ronald	Lakeland Correctional Facility