



# MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS *HELP MAKE THINGS RIGHT*

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 16, 2015

## New Year Bringing a New Look for F.Y.I.

A new year means new resolutions for many, and for F.Y.I. it will mean a new look and a renewed focus on you — our employees who work so hard every day to serve Michigan’s citizens.

We want to share your stories and spread the word about the great work underway at the Department of Corrections and in the communities we belong to.

We are planning to bring you new features profiling our employees, our programs and efforts to improve the lives of our state’s residents to help make things right.

But we can’t do it without you.

We want to hear from you about the

remarkable things happening throughout MDOC — whether it is a coworker who goes above and beyond every day, or a program that is making a positive impact — and we want your feedback.

Tell us how we can make F.Y.I. better, and let us know what you would like to see in the next edition by contacting Holly Kramer at [Kramerh@michigan.gov](mailto:Kramerh@michigan.gov).

As we move forward with this endeavor, we also cannot forget to thank Edna Plath and Jessica Peterson for all of the hard work they put into this newsletter up to today.

We’re looking forward to spending this new year and the years ahead sharing your stories.

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## Tweet All About It! Follow MDOC on Social Media

Connect with us!

We are using Facebook and Twitter to help share MDOC news and events.

As a department we are striving to increase our social media presence and boost awareness about department initiatives and activities.

Feel free to share posts you see with your friends and followers to spread the word about all the great things happening at MDOC.

We are always open to suggestions and looking to you for input. If you have suggestions for things we could be sharing across our social media platforms, please contact Camara Lewis at [lewisc16@michigan.gov](mailto:lewisc16@michigan.gov).

Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/micorrections](http://www.facebook.com/micorrections), or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/MichiganDOC](https://twitter.com/MichiganDOC)



**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 Holly Kramer at [KramerH@michigan.gov](mailto:KramerH@michigan.gov).



## Leaders at MDOC Take on New Roles

**James Blakley**, who has been with the department since 1985, has been promoted to Assistant Deputy Director of Field



Operations Administration for Outstate Territory.

Blakley started his career with

MDOC as a parole/probation agent in the Genesee Probation Office. He went on to serve as a parole/probation specialist in the Field Operations Administration Region II Office and a parole/probation manager in the Flint Parole Office, Flint Area Office and the Outstate Region Office.

Before joining the Department of Corrections, Blakley was a youth specialist for the Department of Social Services.

He attended Mott Community College and graduated from Saginaw Valley State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in sociology.

Blakley, a Flint native, is a member of the Genesee County Coaches and Officials Association and the Mott Community College Criminal Justice Advisory Board.

**Beverly Smith**, a 28-year veteran of the department has been promoted to Assistant Deputy Director for Field Operations



Administration for Metropolitan Territory.

Smith began her career at MDOC in 1987 as a probation

agent with the Court Services Unit in Wayne County. She went on to serve as a probation/parole supervisor, program manager, area manager and deputy administrator in Field Operations Administration. She currently manages the Region 10 Regional Managers for Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Smith is the liaison for Ceasefire Detroit, a community collaborative with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies designed to reduce and/or eliminate gun violence in Detroit neighborhoods. She is also the MDOC representative for Detroit One; partnering with DPD, FBI, ATF, Wayne County Sheriffs, Michigan State Police, and US Marshal's Service to identify the most notorious offenders in the community and reduce violent crimes.

She received the Director's Award for Professional Excellence in 2011.

**Anthony Stewart** will lead Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility as its new warden.



Stewart joined MDOC as a corrections officer when he was 19 years old and has held a variety of

positions during his 27-year tenure, including corrections officer, sergeant, lieutenant, inspector, assistant deputy warden and deputy warden.

He currently serves as warden of the Detroit Detention Center and the Detroit Reentry Center. Stewart also served as the Assistant Commander of the Jackson area Emergency Response Team and is a member of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Board and is the state representative for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

He also is an adjunct faculty member at Baker College in the criminal justice department.

Stewart is a recipient of the Governor's Symbol of Excellence award.

He holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Sienna Heights University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Michigan.



### Warden Millicent Warren Retiring

After spending 37 years with the Michigan Department of Corrections, Warden Millicent



Warren is capping off her career.

She will retire Feb. 1 from Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility, which she joined in Oct. 2008.

Warren's diverse career with the department began in 1977, when she was hired as a parole agent. She went on to hold positions as Manager of Community Residential Programs, Assistant Deputy Warden and later Deputy Warden of Macomb Correctional Facility, and Warden of Thumb Correctional Facility.

She has been involved in a variety of organizations and initiatives including EPIC and the Association of Women Executives in Corrections. She was named Warden of the Year in 2009 by the North American Association of Wardens & Superintendents.

Warren plans to spend retirement reading, traveling, enjoying family events and participating in community service projects.

### Kramer, Lewis Join MDOC Communications Staff

**Holly Kramer** joined the MDOC Jan. 5 as a communications representative.



She will be responsible for the F.Y.I. Newsletter and assisting Public Information Officer Chris Gautz with media inquiries.

Kramer has a degree in journalism from Michigan State University and spent four years as a staff writer at the Jackson Citizen Patriot covering local government.

After leaving the Citizen Patriot in late 2011, Kramer held positions at the textbook publisher Cengage Learning, Michigan State University and Consumers Energy, where she served as a project manager and project coordinator.

**Camara Lewis** started her employment with MDOC Jan. 5 as the department's social media coordinator.



She will manage the MDOC Facebook and Twitter pages to improve the department's overall social media presence, and will also be responsible for updating the department's public website.

Lewis is a Chicago-area native and recent graduate of Michigan State University, where she studied advertising.

She comes to us with high recommendations from the Michigan Department of Human Services, where she served as a communications intern.

### Share Your Positive Personal Stories

We want to share the personal accomplishments and actions of our employees! If you know about something an employee has done that deserves some praise or credit, let us know. Email the story to [KramerH@michigan.gov](mailto:KramerH@michigan.gov) and F.Y.I. will share the story with the rest of the MDOC family.



## EPIC Prisoner Benefit Fund

The Effective Process Improvement & Communication (EPIC) *Prisoner Benefit Fund* (PBF) team is working to develop standardized processes and protocols for requests made to the fund, as well as equitable distribution of money, while still maintaining proper order and security.



The team, which was assembled July 2, is divided into two sub-teams — Financial and Standardization— focused on standardizing forms, meeting minutes, agendas, indexes, and financial statements. Team members are also researching new funding opportunities for programming and projects that would not have been possible in the past.

The input, skills and experience of team members have been invaluable in moving forward quickly and efficiently. The team is open to input from others, so feel free to contact any of the members to share your thoughts and suggestions

Team members include: Mike Baker, Sherry Burt, Lyndsey Cavill, Cindy Dodds-Dugan, Lia Gulick, Ken McKee, Tamela Meek, Toni Moore, Patricia Popoff, Randee Rewerts, Joe Sattler, George Stephenson, and Initiative Manager Destinie Shipman. Thanks also go to Becky Scherf and Carol Wilson, who recently retired.

## EPIC Field Operations Administration Team

The Field Operations Administration (FOA) statewide EPIC team has been charged with tackling four significant issues: Parole violation trends through Community Corrections, Restorative Justice, Swift & Sure Sanctions and FOA Work Statements.

The team, which began its work in August 2014 and has been divided into four sub-teams representing each issue, includes more than 40 members, led by Initiative Manager Lynn Kaufman, Team Lead Doug Clark, and Sub-team leads Candace Hill, Nick Knebl, Verlynda Winston and Rob Halsey.

The Parole Violation (PV) Trends sub-team is responsible for finding alternatives to prison for proba-

tioners and probation violators, including looking at substance abuse programs in jail settings. The team is targeting straddle cell offenders due to the impact a reduction of prison commitments could have on this population. They are also examining ways to increase communication between the field, the Office of Community Corrections and counties to determine best practices for programming. This team, which comprises members from the field and community corrections, is also looking to expand its membership. Team members include: Candace Hill, Bill Dunham, Tom Halsted, Keisha Jackson, Kim Luther, Heath White, Ad-hoc Member Tom Combs and Andy VerHeek.

The Restorative Justice sub-team's charge is becoming familiar with restorative justice initiatives in Michigan and beyond. The team is tasked with assessing the support for such initiatives in the Legislature and courts and developing recommendations for how and where the department might support these initiatives in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Restorative Justice is an exceedingly broad topic and even wider are the various "practices" found within it. The sub-team views Restorative Justice as "a collaborative holistic approach that focuses on the harm inflicted and consequent needs of victims, communities and offenders by accepting responsibility, restoring relationships, and reparations," with a focus on prisoners, parolees, and probationers.

The sub-team is looking at three critical factors: 1) Accepting Responsibility, e.g. cognitive behavioral therapy; 2) Restoring Relationships, e.g. Family Reunification, Victim Awareness, Conflict Resolution / Mediation; and 3) Reparations, e.g. Community Service, Restitution, Fines/Costs.

The Restorative Justice sub-team includes: Michelle Brittain, Julie Goldman, Nicholas Knebl, Barbara Newland, Mary-Jo Pass, Janella Robinson, Wendy Sadowski, Ruth Schueller, William Switzer, and Christine Witters.



### **EPIC Field Operations Team**

*(Continued from Page 4)*

The Swift & Sure Sanctions sub-team is committed to creating and developing case management standards to implement an effective and consistent Swift & Sure Sanctions Program.

Michigan Public Act 616 of 2012 permits Swift & Sure Sanctions programs to be established by the courts on a voluntary basis. These programs require close monitoring, and in jurisdictions where they have been formally established, the Department has collaborated with the courts to assign field agents to manage Swift & Sure caseloads as prescribed in statute. This concept can be employed to our advantage in jurisdictions where the court docket allows for the time the judge needs to invest into interaction with the offenders and the local jails have sufficient room for short terms of detention.

The team is charged with optimizing the benefit to the courts and the department of the existing formal Swift & Sure Sanctions programs, as well as expanding our use of the Swift & Sure containment model as an effective case management strategy for high-risk probationers in venues where a program has not been created.

The team is in the process of reaching out to agents, supervisors, case managers and judges throughout Michigan to obtain feedback and opinions about existing Swift & Sure programs in their respective counties. The sub-team will explore the development of a pilot program for Swift & Sure case managers for OMNI Web access; release a second survey to Swift & Sure agents to increase standardization; present to counties where it is not existent in an effort to share information about the program; and begin work with legal to draft case management standards for Swift & Sure implementation.

Team members include: Verlynda Winston, Ray Bowerson, Scott Collins, Joseph Lambert, Ann Parker, Jackie Straub and Ad-hoc members Jamee Babbitt and Thomas Myers.

The Work Statement Conversion sub-team will create user friendly operating procedures to replace current work statements and other secondary documents. A thorough review of existing work statements, FOA Numbered Memoranda, and other secondary documents is being conducted. The sub-team is also working with legal on the current policy directives impacting work statements.

The sub-team members are: Robert Halsey, Anne Baker, Greg Brady, Mike Echlin, Kristin Gagnon, Danielle Guido, Jennifer Henry, Kevin Jones, Jason Maue, Stephanie Musser, Marie Serna, Jennifer Woycehoski, and Ad-hoc Members Julie Goldman, Lisa Gettys and Alice Jones.

## Harvest Gathering Campaign a Success



Staff at the Earnest C. Brooks and West Shoreline correctional facilities raised \$853 and collected a plethora of food to help struggling local families keep meals on the table through the holidays.

Those donations benefited the Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank and Christ Temple Church food pantry.

Central Office, Field Operations Administration offices and facilities raised more than \$11,000 combined for the



2014 Harvest Gathering Campaign, which will provide more than 55,000 meals to those in need. statewide.



### Inmate-made Blankets Benefit Veterans

Veterans at Magnum Care in Adrian will stay a little warmer this winter while showing their patriotism after receiving American flag lap blankets made by inmates at Gus Harrison Correctional Facility.

The Onsted Legion Riders Post 550 presented the veterans with gifts and the lap blankets on Dec. 20.

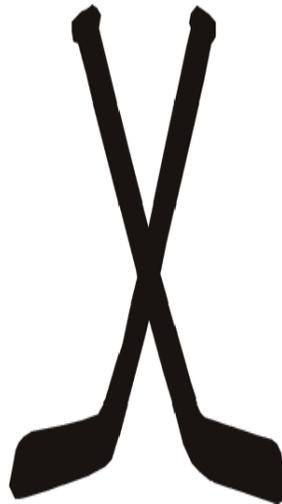


## 2<sup>ND</sup> Annual Officer Hammond Charity Hockey game

**MDOC BLACK KNIGHTS**



**DETROIT POLICE**



January 31st, 2015 7:30 pm  
Mt. Clemens Ice Arena  
200 N. Groesbeck Hwy, Mt.  
Clemens, MI 48043

TICKETS \$10

For ticket information contact:  
Sgt Warner  
warnerj3@michigan.gov



## Employees Brighten the Holidays with Charitable Giving

The generosity of MDOC staff was staggering this holiday season as toys and other items for needy families piled up in offices and facilities statewide. Here are some examples of employees giving back to help those in their community.



**Above:** Ionia Correctional Facility employees adopted two families from Emerson Elementary in Ionia for the Angel Tree. Pictured from left to right: Lt. Shawn Rykse, Capt. Kevin Wood, MCO President (ICF) Paul Jensen, Deputy Warden Nannette Norwood, A/RUM Brooke Snyder, Warden Willie O. Smith, Administrative Assistant John Christiansen



**Above:** Danielle Myers and Wendy Rademacher with toys donated by staff at Grandview Plaza in Lansing. More than 200 items were given to the St. Vincent de Paul Children's Home.



**Above:** The Detroit Detention Center adopted two families this holiday season. The family pictured was selected by a counselor at Davison Elementary School. The second family were clients of the Detroit Area Agency on Aging and had an 11-year-old daughter and seven grandchildren who lived with them.



**Above:** The Thumb Correctional Facility provided 21 stockings filled with gifts and clothes to children at the Flint Odyssey House.



### Employees Brighten the Holidays with Charitable Giving

*(Continued from Page 7)*

**Right:** Marquette Branch Prison staff helped about 65 needy children buy presents for their loved ones and provided holiday gifts to many others through the Shop With A Cop program and the Marquette County Cheer Club. Marquette Branch Prison Employees and the MBP Employees Club donated two bikes with helmets and numerous other toys to the Marquette County Cheer Club. MBP staff also joined local area law enforcement agencies at Wal-Mart for the Shop With A Cop program.



**Left:** Lakeland Correctional Facility staff helped treat local children through the Shop With A Cop event. Children received dinner and a car cruise through Coldwater in law enforcement vehicles before stopping at Wal-Mart where they purchased gifts for themselves, their family, and a toy for the Toys for Tots program. ERT Commander Bryan Morrison, Lt. Russ Rurka, and Corrections Officer Chad Poynter represented LCF. A portion of the proceeds for the event were raised through the LCF Golf Outing held last summer.

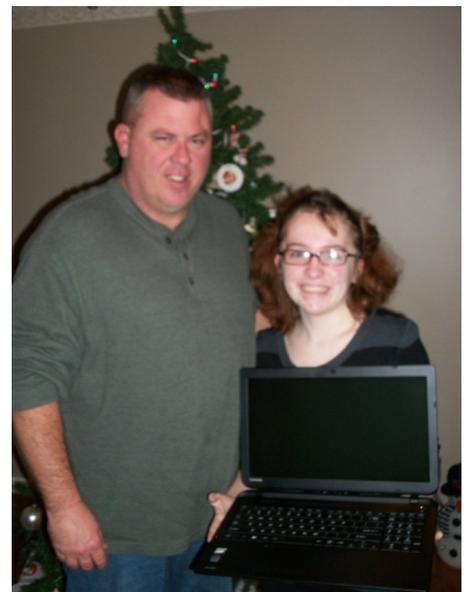
**Right:** The 13-year-old daughter of Corrections Officer William McQuade received a welcome holiday surprise, courtesy of her father's colleagues at Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility.

Bellamy Creek shift commanders started a collection to buy a new laptop for Starr McQuade, who was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and had an 8-pound tumor in her abdomen.

The tumor has since been removed, and McQuade said Starr is now cancer free and doing very well.

Starr was "thrilled" about the new computer, and uses it every day for homework, listening to music and staying up-to-date on her favorite bands, he said.

McQuade said he was very appreciative of all the support his family received.





## Calling All Creative Minds!

*Enter Your Poster Ideas and Win*

The 2015 Employee Survey is March 9 through March 30, and help is needed creating awareness for it.

The winner of the Employee Survey Poster Contest will have their poster printed and signed by Governor Snyder and Lt. Governor Calley.

If you don't have a Bureaucracy Busters account yet, [click here](#) and use your @michigan.gov or @michigan.org email address to sign up.

The submission period for this contest is Jan. 12 through Jan. 23. The Bureaucracy Busters team will then choose a number of the top poster creations for you to vote on. Log back into Bureaucracy Busters between January 26 and January 30 to cast your vote for your favorite poster design.

The design with the most votes will be declared the winner. Though only one poster will be declared the winner, more than one poster may be selected to promote the survey during the statewide survey campaign.

We look forward to seeing your creativity unleashed!



## A Boy and His Dog

5 year old gets service dog thanks to Michigan Reformatory



Above: Camden and Loci after a day of training.

The 5-year-old grandson of an MDOC employee will receive the assistance of a Paws With A Cause dog thanks to a training program at Michigan Reformatory.

Shortly before Christmas, Camden, the grandson of LaDean Lemke, a librarian technician at Michigan Reformatory, was paired with Loci, a dog trained at the facility.

Camden was on the list for a service dog for children with autism for most of his life.

About 25 dogs have been trained by inmates at Michigan Reformatory since the Paws With A Cause training program started there on Aug. 11.

Paws With A Cause, which was founded in 1979 and is based out of Wayland, Mich., receives more than 2,000 assistance dog application requests and about 60 to 90 teams are placed each year, according to the program.



## MDOC Employees Honored for their Actions

### Staff recognized for valor, lifesaving efforts and meritorious service

**Carlos Cook** was presented with the department's Valor Award for his efforts to capture a parole absconder, who had hit him head on at high speed before running from the scene.



Carlos Cook

On Sept. 23, Cook was involved in investigating the location of the absconder, who had fled in a car, resulting in a high-speed chase by local law enforcement. Cook remained in his vehicle at the location the absconder fled from in the event he returned.

When he did return, the absconder spotted Cook and swerved his vehicle into Cook's at a high rate of speed then fled on foot. Cook chased the absconder, who ignored orders to stop, and then deployed his Taser, disabling him. The absconder was taken into custody without further resistance.

**Timothy Wolford** was presented with the department's Lifesaving Award after he pulled a woman from her vehicle following a rollover accident and administered emergency first aid.



Timothy Wolford

Wolford saw the woman swerve to avoid a collision when she was cut off by another vehicle on the highway. Her vehicle then rolled several times down a deep embankment.

Wolford stopped immediately to help and found the vehicle upside down and smoking. Concerned about the possibility of the vehicle catching fire, Wolford helped the driver from the vehicle and instructed other bystanders to call 911. He kept the driver calm, checked her vital signs and administered first aid until state police and EMS arrived.

**Chad Bellinger, Ronald Hughes and Steven Schabel** received the department's Meritorious Service Award for assisting local Field Operations Administration offices with high-risk home visits and searches for absconders following day-long trainings at Camp Grayling.



Chad Bellinger

Ronald Hughes

Steven Schabel

Bellinger, Hughes and Schabel were attending High Risk Fugitive Apprehension Training at Camp Grayling between Sept. 8 and Sept. 12, and reached out to several FOA offices to see if they could assist in picking up absconders or performing home visits following

training. The Absconder Recovery Unit is now under the supervision of FOA.

On Sept. 9, the men teamed up with agents from the Ogemaw County Probation and Parole Office and a local drug team, and on Sept. 10, they traveled to Grand Traverse County to assist in the search for probation absconders. They returned late each evening to Camp Grayling to attend the intensive trainings the following mornings.



**NOVEMBER 2014 RETIREMENTS**

Alexander, Aaron E. ....	St. Louis Correctional Facility
Ballmann, Peter M. ....	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Beecham, Dennis .....	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Bidelman, Jeffrey R. ....	Oaks Correctional Facility
Bigelow, Yvonne A. ....	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Brantley, Jewell D. ....	Oakland County, Pontiac, Probation
Breault, Blaine L. ....	St. Louis Correctional Facility
Carberry, Peggy A. ....	Alger Correctional Facility
Castellon, Danny .....	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Dankert, Chris D. ....	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Davenport, Richard A. ....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Dykema, Douglas F. ....	Marquette Branch Prison
Faber, Robert .....	St. Louis Correctional Facility
Finch, James M. ....	Pugsley Correctional Facility
Furtah, Joseph L. ....	Macomb Correctional Facility
Graham, Douglas S. ....	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Hartunian, Harry E. ....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Hoag-Wilkes, Mary E. ....	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Hoffner, Donald J. ....	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Kasdorf, Thomas A. ....	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Keenoy, Shawn E. ....	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Kingsley, Paul C. ....	Pugsley Correctional Facility
Lawrence, Tyrone .....	Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Letson, Billy R. ....	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Masters, Robert A. ....	Alger Correctional Facility
Meehan, Murray J. ....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Miller, Gary A. ....	Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Miller, Margaret. ....	Detroit Reentry Center
Mitchell, Rose J. ....	Detroit Reentry Center
Niciporek, Michael E. ....	Cooper Street Correctional Facility



**November Retirements continued**

Nowacki, Thomas S.....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Pace, Dianne .....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Pelon, Michelle L. ....	Richard Handlon Correctional Facility
Reffruschinni, Michael J.....	Alger Correctional Facility
Rourk, Kevin J. ....	Marquette Branch Prison
Saathoff, Robin L.....	St. Louis Correctional Facility
Salak, Louis E.....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Scherf, Rebecca Q. ....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Schertz, Gary L.....	Alger Correctional Facility
Seybold, Spencer .....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Sprang, Samuel L.....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Steffes, Elaine C.....	Lapeer County Parole/Probation
Stoner, Rodger L. ....	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Swint, Jeffrey W.....	St. Louis Correctional Facility
Taskila, Kevin G. ....	Alger Correctional Facility
Todd, Isaiah.....	Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Tullar, Kurt R. ....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Turner, Charles E. ....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
White, Franklin S. ....	Michigan Reformatory
White, Vickie.....	Oakland County, Pontiac Probation
Wright, John T. ....	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Young, Kenneth J. ....	Pugsley Correctional Facility
Zischke, Terri L.....	Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center