Michigan Department of Corrections

2005 Annual Report

www.michigan.gov/corrections
Dear Citizens:

Every day the employees of the Michigan Department of Corrections work to ensure public safety by keeping our prisons secure and our communities safe.

To achieve that goal it is imperative that we have adequate prison beds to keep violent and dangerous offenders off the streets. However, it is also important to understand that nearly 95 percent of those incarcerated today will, at some time in the future, be released back to the community.

The department’s re-entry initiative is providing training, education and programming for incarcerated felons. We are working to give them the tools they need to turn their lives around once they are back in our neighborhoods.

We want to return incarcerated individuals to our communities better prepared to lead honest productive lives than when they entered the system. This does not mean we will become soft on crime.

Criminals are rightfully sent to prison as punishment for their crime. No one chooses prison and incarceration is not an easy or comfortable life. It does mean that we have to face the fact that these individuals will one day be living in our neighborhoods. Keep in mind that our goal is not to make prison life easy, but to make re-entry successful.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Caruso
Director
Michigan Department of Corrections
# Michigan Department of Corrections

## 2005 Annual Report

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Vision Statement

The Department shall be the benchmark for all correctional agencies in how to treat employees with dignity and respect and in providing excellent probation, prison and parole services.

Mission Statement

The criminal justice system consists of law enforcement, prosecution, defense, courts and corrections.

The primary function of the criminal justice system is to enhance public safety and ensure just punishment for criminal behavior.

As one of the components of that system, the department’s mission is to enhance public safety by recommending sanctions to the courts and, as directed by the courts, carrying out the sentences given to convicted adult felons in a humane, cost-efficient manner which is consistent with sound correctional principles and constitutional standards.

The department shall carry out this mission by:

1. Administering an integrated corrections system consisting of probation, prison and parole supervision.

2. Working with local jurisdictions on the development of a wide range of correctional sanctions that are available to the courts such as restitution for victims, community service and public works projects, community corrections components, probation supervision, incarceration in prison and parole supervision so that offenders will be supervised in the most appropriate setting consistent with public safety.

3. Providing meaningful opportunities for offenders to help themselves to improve their behavior and become law-abiding and productive citizens through academic, vocational, work, recreational and religious programs.
The goal of the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) is to assure that Michigan’s communities are protected. This task is accomplished through the confinement of convicted offenders to prison or to supervision while they reside in the community.

Across the state, 42 facilities, seven camps and the Special Alternative Incarceration (SAI) program or boot camp house approximately 49,546 offenders. Community supervision provides oversight to another 70,543 probationers and parolees.

All adults and juveniles sentenced as adults convicted of felonies and certain misdemeanors for which the statutory maximum is more than one year can be sentenced to the state’s prison system, which is under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Most convicted felons are not, however, sent to prison. Most are supervised locally through probation while others are sentenced to up to one year in a county jail. Department of Corrections probation officers supervise felony offenders for the circuit court. Qualified offenders may be sentenced to SAI as a condition of their probation.

Convicted felons who have served at least their minimum sentence can be paroled, if eligible. Parole is a period of supervision in the community after incarceration.

As the Michigan Department of Corrections carries out its mission of ensuring the public safety, growth of the prisoner population is a concern. The department’s Five-Year Plan to Control Prison Growth continues to fine tune policies and practices so that expensive prison beds are reserved for the most violent and dangerous offenders.

It is also important to understand that approximately 95 percent of those incarcerated today will at some time in the future be released back to the community. To ensure the success of those returning to society, the department has recently launched the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI). The objectives of the initiative are to promote public safety by reducing the threat of harm by released offenders and to increase the success rates of offenders who transition from prison and return to the community.

A major component of this effort is its emphasis on creating new collaborative approaches with public, private, state and local agencies to better prepare prisoners for release and re-entry into our communities.
Community Alliances

Community Supervision
Many MDOC programs, from the supervision of parolees and probationers to the use of inmate labor for public service, contribute directly to the local communities in which these programs reside. While some of the latest and most successful programs are listed here, many others can be reviewed on the MDOC Web site at www.michigan.gov/corrections.

The grant program administered by the department’s Office of Community Corrections (OCC), and the County Jail Reimbursement Program offer financial incentives to local government to provide local sanctions for offenders convicted of certain crimes saving costly prison beds for violent, assaultive or repeat offenders. This is coupled with an increased emphasis on treatment-oriented programs. These partnerships with local communities reduce prison admissions, improve jail utilization, strengthen offender accountability and improve the quality and effectiveness of treatment programs in reducing recidivism.

The Special Alternative Incarceration (SAI) program (boot camp) provides an alternative to traditional incarceration and allows a second chance for offenders to serve their sentence in an intensive, highly-structured environment with an accelerated time line.

Public Works Programs
The prisons and camps located across the state work to contribute to the community in which they are located. Local public works programs have provided community service for Michigan communities, state agencies and nonprofit organizations by prisoners, probationers and parolees. Those ordered by the court or Parole Board to perform community service as a condition of their sentences work at nonprofit agencies cleaning floors, painting, moving furniture and clearing allies, vacant lots and parking areas. These are tangible ways that prisoners can give back to the community. It also gives prisoners the marketable skills and confidence necessary to succeed upon their parole.

A tremendous benefit is provided to the local community by minimum-security work crews who operate out of the state’s camps and some low security prisons. Those assignments included grounds maintenance at public buildings and parks and in cities and small municipalities. Work crews cut the grass in cemeteries, cleared trees and brush from road right of ways and cleaned up after floods and other natural disasters. They cleaned litter from highways and county roads and shoveled snow. They were involved in the construction of community pavilions and in the removal of abandoned buildings. They provided custodial workers for state police posts, maintained National Guard firing ranges and were involved in local recycling efforts. Communities were provided with a low-cost service that in many cases would otherwise have not been available to them.

In addition to their work in the community, inmates produce food for use in MDOC facilities. In 2005, 25 facilities and camps had gardens producing 46 varieties of fruits, vegetables and herbs. A total of 437,000 pounds of fruit, vegetables and herbs with a wholesale value of $362,031 were raised at the facilities. More than 41,119 pounds of food
Community Alliances

were donated to nonprofit organizations. Newberry Correctional Facility was the top producer, raising 254,198 pounds of produce. The introduction of institutionally-produced foods to a prison menu can have an impact on the cost of feeding prisoners. Prisoner workers involved in the prison farming operations demonstrate exceptionally good work habits and express satisfaction at working in the program.

Items produced by the facilities include herbs such as sage and oregano, pumpkins, watermelons, potatoes, tomatoes and cucumbers. In addition horticulture programs at several facilities raise sixty varieties of plants, flowers and shrubs and provide flowers and plants to community agencies and Habitat for Humanity homes.

Project C.L.E.A.N.

Project C.L.E.A.N. (CLeaning Expressways And Neighborhoods) utilizes minimum-security prisoners housed in the state’s correctional system and offenders on probation or parole to clean up Michigan’s highways, roadways and neighborhoods. Between June and September 2005, the offenders removed 18,968 bags of trash from 3,650 miles of Michigan streets, roads and highways.

Working in partnership with the Michigan Department of Transportation, areas of highway in need of trash removal and roadside clean-up were identified. Loads of brush and garbage were removed from streets and highways across the state.

In order to participate in the program, offenders must be on probation or parole or must be classified as minimum security (Level I), have no history of arson or sex offenses, have served half their minimum sentence, be within 12 months of their earliest release date and not be sentenced as a habitual offender.
Prison Build Program

A unique partnership exists between the Michigan Department of Corrections Prison Build Program and Habitat for Humanity. One of the missions of the program is to assist Habitat for Humanity, local units of government and nonprofit organizations in providing housing and related products for low-income families through the use of inmate labor.

Michigan was chosen as the site of the 2005 Jimmy Carter Work Project, where 230 homes were built due, in part, to the efforts of staff and inmates within the Prison Build Program. The efforts of all those who participated resulted in one of the most successful Jimmy Carter Work Projects in its history dating back to 1984. Both the Prison Build Program and the Jimmy Carter Work Project are nationally recognized programs and projects that assist in the building of safe, decent and affordable housing for Habitat for Humanity.

Since three prisons first engaged in a pilot project in 1998 and 1999 to build wall panels for Habitat homes, the Prison Build Program has grown annually. There are now 17 prisons involved in building walls, cabinets, trim, sheds and providing horticulture and landscaping products and services. More than 500 Habitat families now live in safe, decent and affordable housing built in part by the more than 300 inmates that are now a part of the Prison Build Program.

The Saginaw Correctional Facility has the unique distinction of being approved by the state regulatory body for manufactured housing. The Saginaw prison has a separate perimeter within the secure perimeter where complete homes can be built for low-income families and shipped with the state seal of approval to their planned locations.

No similar prison program exists in the country that offers extensive vocational education to its inmates, applies that training to the building of housing for low-income families and provides the inmates with the resources necessary for a successful return to society. Inmates who choose building trades as a vocation are trained using a nationally recognized construction curriculum.
Prison Build Program

offered through the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). The NCCER is recognized by more than 3,000 associations, colleges and industry organizations. Those inmates who complete or are in training and are accepted into the Prison Build Program may work at any of the nine prisons involved in the construction program.

Inmates working in the horticulture program receive more than 450 hours of education and training in nursery and landscape management. Those inmates may work at any of the 14 prisons providing horticulture products and services, including the statewide distribution center located at the Parnall Correctional Facility in Jackson. This distribution center is the staging area for all horticulture products going to Habitat families. Currently, 15 products including trees, shrubbery and perennials are available for each Habitat home.

The Prison Build Program offers inmates the opportunity to apply their training and education in the construction and horticulture trades to provide housing for low-income families. Intrinsic in the program is knowledge and understanding that inmates are giving something back to the free world they left. This training and participation goes to assist each inmate in a successful return to society.

Project S.A.F.E. Street

Project S.A.F.E. (Statewide Apprehension of Fugitives Effort) Street is a joint effort among the Michigan Department of Corrections, the Michigan State Police, and local law enforcement to identify and arrest parole violators who pose a risk to the public. A three-day fugitive sweep is conducted to apprehend parole absconders, with the highest priority being given to fugitives with new offenses involving firearms and to those serving for firearm related offenses, assaultive offenses or sex offenses.

Four fugitive sweeps were conducted during 2005, resulting in the arrest of 745 parole violators. The Field Operations Administration’s Absconder Recovery Units were an integral part of the fugitive sweep process.

The Department of Corrections has a number of other collaborative efforts throughout Michigan with local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies. Many of the collaborative initiatives target areas such as the reduction of gun violence, monitoring of sex offenders, violence reduction, fugitive apprehension, auto theft reduction, arsonists, illegal drivers, and gang violence.
Innovative Programs

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Video Conferencing
The Michigan Department of Corrections is one of the most advanced in the nation and recognized throughout the country when it comes to the use of video conferencing for Parole Board interviews and telemedicine. Officials from other state departments and agencies also have sought guidance and assistance from MDOC when planning their own video conferencing programs.

The MDOC started a pilot project in telemedicine in 1996 with four telemedicine sites. Since that time the program has grown to 63 video units at 39 locations. The MDOC continues to be recognized as a leader in correctional telemedicine applications in the nation.

The avoided transportation costs of prisoners are the most tangible savings. Increased public safety, productivity, and efficiency in the delivery of services are additional benefits. Other state and federal agencies are beginning to utilize video technology to interact with MDOC in the delivery of services. All Social Security Administrations’ appeal hearings with prisoners are currently being held using video conferencing as well as all immigration and naturalization hearings with prisoners.

Reducing costs associated with the transportation of prisoners and employee travel is essential in today’s economic environment. Assuring public safety by reducing the public's exposure to prisoners being transported is primary to the mission of the Department.

The Parole Board continues to rely heavily on video conferencing for hearing cases. Of the 210 Parole Board trips scheduled between May 2005 and June 2006, 151 were conducted via video conferencing.

More and more district and circuit courts are conducting witness testimony and arraignments via video. New court rules will go into effect in January, expanding the use of video conferencing for state courts even further.

Eight parole and probation offices are slated for video installations in 2006. This will allow the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI) Transition Teams to meet with prisoners without traveling to the facilities. Witness testimony for parole violations hearings can also be provided through these installations.

The department is participating in a multi-agency task force coordinated by the Governor to evaluate ways to reduce travel by state employees. Video conferencing is one of the major tools being examined by this task force.

By the end of 2006, every correctional facility will have video conferencing capability, further improving the safety and efficiency of core function activities.

Telemedicine
In addition to the use of video conferencing for parole hearings, misconduct hearings, administrative meetings and witness testimony, it can also be applied to telemedicine.

Telemedicine provides for patient/doctor consultations including emergency psychiatric evaluations. At locations with electronic stethoscopes, doctors can listen to a patient’s heart and lung functions. Scopes are available that can transmit sensitive information about the ears, eyes or skin to a specialist at Duane L. Waters Hospital or another location. Doctors are able to
Innovative Programs

Telemedicine equipment at Duane L. Waters Hospital in Jackson.

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view x-rays or reports immediately. Dr. Craig Hutchinson, regional medical director for Correctional Medical Services, often consults with patients from his office. Prisoners can confer with dieticians and mental health professionals as well. The reduced transportation costs and more efficient use of time are prudent in today’s economic environment.

The average cost of transporting a prisoner is $157. The costs can be considerably higher for Level V prisoners or prisoners from remote locations. There have been more than 7,000 telemedicine encounters since the inception of the program, representing over $1,000,000 in avoided transportation costs for health care.

MPRI relies heavily on the technology. The department is currently assisting the state court administrative office in the development and implementation of prisoner child support re-adjudication hearings. These hearings will take place over video conferencing with the Friend of the Court in four piloted counties.

In the future, the MDOC will work with county offices via video conference to set up support teams for prisoners ready for re-entry. The potential also exists for prisoners to use the technology for job interviews while they are still incarcerated. By the time a prisoner is released from prison he or she could have a job and a complete support network set up for parole activities, all through the use of video conferencing.

Energy Rebate Agreement

An agreement between the MDOC and Consumers Energy generated a department savings of $866,790 on Consumers Energy bills. The agreement covers those MDOC facilities that have the capability to self generate electrical power if the utility is experiencing difficulty in providing full service to communities because of high peak loads on the system. In addition, by managing the purchases and use of natural gas throughout the state, the MDOC was able to realize energy savings of $413,000.
Legal issues arise in the prison system just as they do in any community. These judicial decisions can affect the operations of the department as well as affect the public. This year about 1,000 cases were filed against the department, not including federal habeas actions filed to challenge convictions. Of those, approximately 95 percent were filed by prisoners and five percent by employees.

**Internal Audit Section**
The Internal Audit Section has added value to the department’s operations by performing independent appraisals of the department’s activities. These are done in order to provide management with information regarding the adequacy of internal control systems. The systems are designed to minimize potential risks such as prisoner escapes, assaults on staff and prisoners, prisoner suicide, state asset loss, state funds waste or abuse, inaccuracies in data systems and noncompliance with laws and rules. The section was recently recognized by the Department of Management and Budget for its risk assessment strategy and its innovative way of structuring its reports.

The Internal Audit Section has also facilitated risk assessment sessions with operational staff. The sessions and appraisals have led to recommendations that helped management identify progressive steps to improve internal control systems throughout the department.

**Prisoner Affairs Section**
The Prisoner Affairs Section is responsible for investigating and responding to Step III grievances for the Director. Investigations into prisoner claims for reimbursement for lost/destroyed prisoner property are conducted by this section, and recommendations are made to the State Administrative Board.
The Office of Personnel Services is responsible for the Technical Services Section, Labor Relations, drug and alcohol testing and for supervision of all human resources offices.

In 2005 Personnel Services coordinated the hiring of Department of Community Health staff affected by the consolidation of the Huron Valley Center. Approximately 300 Department of Community Health staff were placed within the Department of Corrections. Nearly 230 forensic security aides were processed and trained to become officers and sergeants in the MDOC. While the majority of the placements occurred at the department’s Huron Valley Complex, placements also occurred throughout the state.

Due to budgeting constraints, a number of areas were consolidated or facilities closed. These areas included the consolidation of Field Operations Administration finance offices at the local regions and the closures of Camp Tuscola, Camp Sauble, Camp Koehler, and Buena Vista and Benton Harbor Corrections Centers. These consolidations and closures resulted in the need to transfer affected staff.

With the cancellation of the contract to operate the Michigan Youth Correctional Facility (MYC), a private facility, Personnel Services worked to place affected individuals at openings throughout the MDOC. One hundred eighty-eight MYC staff indicated a desire to work for the department and were offered positions in various classifications. Approximately 153 accepted employment offers and were hired.

The DeMarse Academy was closed as part of an executive order. Consequently, the Office of Training and Recruitment was moved to Grandview Plaza in Lansing. The remainder of the office will relocate to the Michigan State Police Academy in Lansing.

Recruitment staff put together a corrections class, the Overton class comprised of 75 women and 45 men. This was also the first academy to be conducted at the Michigan State Police Academy.

In 2005 the Equal Employment Opportunity office continued to expand the Work/Life Services program, which was implemented in 2004. The program's goal is to help employees develop balance between their work and personal lives, in order to keep them healthy and feeling like a valued part of the Corrections team. This year, a needs assessment identified gaps in the information and services previously provided to employees. In addition to identifying and working on closing the gaps, a Work/Life Services web page was developed that provides a wealth of information and resources to employees regarding issues that may affect their work and personal lives.

The Department of Corrections invests in staff development and professionalism with extensive training and updates. The Office of Training and Recruitment is responsible for the department’s new employee and professional development training.

The MDOC Leadership Academy is the professional development unit responsible for leadership training. A total of 74 staff attended a rigorous two-week leadership program designed to develop the future leaders of the department.

Leadership training classes for 318 managers, supervisors and executive assistants were held throughout the state as well. The department's Ordnance Unit trained 1,825 staff and the Emergency Response Team and Field Services trained an additional 1,514 staff in 2005.
The department believes employees should be acknowledged for their excellence on the job and in the community. The employee awards program began in 1998 and each year employees are honored for exceptional efforts demonstrated throughout the year.

The Director’s Professional Excellence Award is given annually to employees who are considered exceptional in his or her job performance. The Director’s Award is given to one employee from among those selected for the Professional Excellence Award. Nominations are reviewed by the appropriate Executive Policy Team member and then presented to the entire Executive Policy Team for a final decision.

Lifesaving, Citizenship, Valor and Meritorious Service awards are decided by the appropriate Executive Policy Team member and those awards are presented by that member at the work site during the course of the year.

This year’s Michigan Department of Corrections Director's Award was presented to John W. Kiely, acting physical plant supervisor for Ryan and Mound correctional facilities. Kiely and his crew work to ensure that the Mound and Ryan facilities remain in good repair and are ready for ACA re-accreditation. Both facilities were noted by the accreditation auditors for being outstanding.

Kiely takes a hands-on approach to maintenance and at one time worked 12 hours on the roof of a facility to repair the air conditioning. His professionalism and leadership style inspire others to go the extra mile. Through his example he has improved the morale and professionalism of his staff, in turn improving the overall performance of the maintenance departments at the facilities.

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm and Wardens Raymond Booker and Andrew Jackson join MDOC Director Patricia L. Caruso as she presents the Director's Award to John Kiely.
Kenneth E. Hatfield, an investigator with the Field Operations Administration (FOA) Region III Absconder Recovery Unit, was named 2005 Michigan Corrections Officer of the Year.

His selection was made by the State Standards Committee of the Michigan Correctional Officers’ Training Council. He was chosen from among nominees who came from every state prison, camp and community supervision region in the state.

Investigator Hatfield, a DeWitt resident, is a nine-year veteran of the corrections department. His Absconder Recovery Unit is part of a regional team that covers 60 counties in the mid-Michigan area. Prior to becoming an investigator with the unit, he worked as a corrections and transportation officer in several correctional facilities where he also served as a member of the Emergency Response Team.

“Investigator Hatfield has been directly involved with the apprehension of some seriously assaultive felons including armed robbers, sex offenders and murderers,” said FOA Regional Administrator Noreen Sawatzki. “His outstanding investigative work has helped to make our cities and communities safer for us all.”

Hatfield plays an important role in a sweep operation held in conjunction with law enforcement agencies throughout mid-Michigan. The program rounds up absconders from parole and probation as well as other criminals and takes them off the streets.

In addition to their outstanding service to the department, candidates for the corrections officer of the year honor are judged on their work ethic, MDOC policy compliance, communications skills and professionalism. Each must be a positive role model and exercise sound judgment in emergency situations.
The Officer of the Year was selected from among five finalists. The others were Thomas R. Greenhoe, Ionia Maximum Correctional Facility; Cheryl M. Masker, Baraga Maximum Correctional Facility; Mike Taylor, Marquette Branch Prison; and John Mayer, Carson City Correctional Facility.

Corrections Officer Thomas R. Greenhoe joined the MDOC in 1987 and has been a weapons instructor for the past 16 years. He is a certified transportation officer, firearms instructor and PA 415 trainer. C/O Greenhoe has been commended for his positive attitude and tremendous work ethic, and once entered a burning cell and pulled out an unconscious prisoner. In addition, he developed and implemented a user-friendly computer program that maintains training dates for every ICF employee. A valuable community member, C/O Greenhoe runs a 26-week youth roller hockey league and teaches hunter safety classes and a personal protection class for women.

Cheryl M. Masker is an information desk officer. She has been with the department since 1993 and has been instrumental in developing emergency guidelines for administration building porters. She has worked to streamline the visitation process for the facility during parole hearings and court proceedings. Lauded as a team player, C/O Masker goes the extra mile, often taking on additional responsibilities and volunteering to make sure the job is done. A strong proponent of the employee club, C/O Masker works to encourage unity in the workplace. She facilitates fundraising projects for those in need and prevented a tragedy by saving the life of a local child who was being dragged under a vehicle. Her professionalism and positive image reflects well on the facility as well as the department as a whole. In the community, she coordinates food drives and mitten trees and works for the March of Dimes and Relay for Life.

Resident Unit Officer Mike Taylor is a 20-year veteran of the department. He has served as the local chief union steward for the last 12 years. In addition, RUO Taylor received two special commendations for actions taken in the line of duty. As a foster parent for the Marquette County Juvenile Court, he and his wife have helped to raise nine foster children over the last 10 years. He is active with Marquette Junior Hockey and is a USA and Michigan High School Athletic Association Hockey Referee and Official.

John Mayer, resident unit officer, is responsible for developing and implementing numerous procedures and practices of the current operations of the Carson City segregation unit. An officer since 1985, he has assisted many staff and inmates by taking control and diffusing potentially dangerous situations. RUO Mayer is known as a role model at his facility and in the community. He often encourages others to consider a corrections career. An active leader with the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, he mentors and teaches at many recreation and sporting events. RUO Mayer has worked as a counselor for handicapped youth during summer camp. His work with the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy, a program designed to stabilize troubled youth as an alternative to incarceration, has influenced the lives of many youth within the community.
An aggressive approach to the problems associated with prison crowding, offender recidivism and parolee alcohol and drug relapse is underway with the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI).

The overall goal of the re-entry initiative is to reduce the number of parolees returning to prison and, as a result, reduce crime and make our communities safer. The initiative’s emphasis is on creating new collaborative approaches with public, private nonprofit, state and local agencies to better prepare prisoners for release and re-entry into the community. The program also involves a department-wide coordination of the continuum of services that prepares inmates for their release and ultimately helps them be more successful.

In addition to the department-wide effort, individuals from various state departments and agencies are involved. Representatives from the departments of Community Health (DCH), Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG) and Human Services (DHS) are participating in work groups formed under the initiative.

The services they offer are those that offenders need to become successful. Offenders require preparation while incarcerated, before turning to those services in the community. Improved discharge practices could more effectively link offenders with their communities by reducing the stress they experience when they are released. The idea is to prevent them from being pulled back into their drug or alcohol addiction simply because they are unprepared to use community resources that could provide assistance. They will be able to apply for services before they are ever released.

In addition MDOC is partnering with other policy and planning groups, such as the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), that address homelessness and the critical issue of transitional housing for parolees—a primary factor in reducing recidivism.

Re-entry work groups are currently making progress on programs that include parole discharge and aftercare, housing, family and child welfare, alcohol and drug treatment, education, mental and physical health care and vocational training and employment.

The Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative is based on a model developed by the National Institute of Corrections. It is being adapted for Michigan in conjunction with what has been learned in Michigan through implementing the department’s Serious and Violent Offender ReEntry Initiative (SVORI). The result will be an original, one-of-a-kind MPRI Model.
Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative

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The initiative is spearheaded by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm. A state policy team oversees the program and team leader Teresa Bingman, deputy legal counsel and criminal justice advisor, is joined by top-level administrators from the partner agencies whose services are needed for successful inmate re-entry.

The MPRI involves three phases: the Getting Ready or Institutional Phase which takes place during the offender’s term of imprisonment; the Going Home or ReEntry Phase which focuses intensely on the inmate’s transition back to the community; and the Staying Home Phase when community supervision and eventual discharge from prison will occur.

The lynchpin of the program is the Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) prepared for each inmate during the prison intake process and modified as the corrections process unfolds. The plan revolves around identifying the inmate’s strengths upon entry into the corrections system, building on those strengths until the offender’s discharge, and continuing to work as partners with Field Operations Administration (FOA) staff after release.

In 2005, the MPRI funded the first eight pilot sites across the state (Berrien; Capital Area, which is comprised of Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties; Genesee; Kalamazoo; Kent; Macomb; the Nine County Rural Region, which covers Antrim, Benzie, Crawford, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Missaukee, Otsego and Wexford and Wayne counties).

The program also received a three-year, $1-million grant from the New York City based JEHT Foundation, the country’s largest private foundation grant award. The grant, which was recently matched with another $1 million for local service and capacity building from JEHT, was provided to Public Policy Associates, Inc. of Lansing. Together with their nonprofit partner, the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency, they are providing full-time community coordinators in the first round pilot sites for six months and in the second round pilot sites (Calhoun, Jackson, Muskegon, Oakland, Saginaw, St. Clair and Washtenaw counties) for nine months. In the third and final year of the JEHT grant, the remaining rural counties will have the benefit of these local coordinators.

Statistics indicate that paroled mentally ill prisoners with a major mental diagnosis violate parole within a median of 72 days of return to the community; those with a non-major mental diagnosis do so within a median of 136 days. A contract was initiated with New Passages and Lifeways of Jackson, Michigan to ensure a seamless connection to necessary services and treatment opportunities for mentally ill prisoners re-entering their communities. New Passages and Lifeways has statewide services available to assist this difficult to serve population. This accomplishment impacts returning prisoners with mental disorders as they will be transitioned to the community with their Transitional Accountability Plan, which will allow families of the returning prisoners more opportunity to assist in the transition planning where appropriate. The plan seeks to ensure that all prisoners with a diagnosis of any type of mental disorder are identified and directed to this service prior to parole.
The Intensive Parole ReEntry Program was developed under the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative (MPRI) to assist prisoners in developing strategies that will enable them to successfully complete parole and become productive, law-abiding citizens within the community. The program is voluntary and eligibility is determined by the Parole Board.

Two correctional facilities were designated as Intensive ReEntry Units (IRU). The male unit began at Cooper Street Correctional Facility (JCS) on March 21, 2005. The IRU program runs for 4 months and has the capacity to accommodate 480 prisoners. The program was initially populated by existing Parole Violator Diversion Program (PVDP) cases and seed population, those prisoners already housed at JCS with existing parole actions. The Parole Board then began identifying prisoners that could benefit from IRU participation, and the program currently functions at full capacity.

The IRU program for female prisoners began at Huron Valley Complex-Women on May 23, 2005. This program has the capacity to accommodate 52 prisoners, with 26 prisoners transferred in and out every 2 months. The population consists only of those females whom the Parole Board has identified for IRU participation. Female prisoners continued participating in the PVDP program until completion and this population was not transferred into the IRU. The female PVDP program has since been phased out.

The Intensive Parole ReEntry Program is a structured program where the prisoner engages in intense programming within the facility while interacting with Field Operations Administration (FOA) staff and community transition teams to develop a comprehensive parole release plan. The field agent inside the institution, referred to as a re-entry agent, works in conjunction with Correctional Facilities Administration (CFA) staff, the prisoner, and the community to develop the prisoner’s Transition Accountability Plan (TAP). The TAP identifies the prisoner’s strengths and needs. The TAP, also referred to as the TAP 2, breaks down into nine categories: housing, employment, educational/vocational/employment training, substance abuse, mental health, physical health, income support, family reunification, and transportation issues.

The re-entry agent also works on developing updated parole placement.
information with the prisoner to identify the best possible placement for their release. Information gathered during the interview and review of the prisoner’s file is then forwarded to FOA staff and the community transition team, who in turn utilize the information to develop the prisoner’s parole release plan.

Transition teams are comprised of FOA staff and community agencies and service providers. Substance abuse, mental health, employment and housing agencies are just some of those involved in the transition teams. The team matches a prisoner’s needs with available services in the community to help develop a smoother transition back into the area.

Transition teams engage the prisoner one on one to discuss their areas of need. This has been accomplished either by in person contact at the facilities or by video conferencing. At the end of November, transition teams had come into the institutions a total of 38 times, along with nine meetings via video conferencing. The number of video sessions will increase in the next year as additional video conferencing units are being installed at nine different sites. This will increase the transition teams’ ability to meet with prisoners on a more regular basis, while saving time and money in travel.

An important element in the MPRI is engaging the prisoner and their family or support system in reunification sessions. Reunification sessions are meetings with the prisoner and those people that will assist the prisoner in the community upon their release. Typically the session will be with the prisoner’s family. The purpose of the session is to discuss and resolve issues that may act as a barrier for the prisoner’s success in the community. It also gives the Department the opportunity to increase the communication between the prisoner, their family, and the Department. The first session was held on August 31.

At the end of November, 550 male prisoners and 45 female prisoners had been released to parole from the program. Three hundred eighty-one of them (64%) paroled to one of the eight transition team sites. Wayne County has the largest number of prisoners involved in the IRU.
The Intensive Detention Reentry Program (IDRP) began in July 2004 to deal with technical parole violators in counties where jail overcrowding had diminished the department’s ability to detain them. The goal was to provide agents the opportunity to detain parole violators, as opposed to returning the parole violator to prison or allowing the parole violator back into the community before alternative sanctions could be explored.

The Department contracted with the Ingham and Clinton county jails to house 90 and 60 parole violators, respectively. Two field agents were placed in the jails to supervise the population. They assist the field agents in the community in developing a transition release plan for the parolee, which includes updated placement information and substance abuse treatment. While detained, the IDRP parolees are assessed to determine the level of care needed for substance abuse treatment. Eligible parolees receive 60 hours of cognitive programming, and Michigan Works! provides employability skills training.

The Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Instrument (SASSI) is used to determine the severity of a parolee’s substance abuse problem. Parolees scoring a four, the highest possible score, are referred to the Office of Substance Abuse Services for a referral to a residential substance abuse treatment program. Parolees are transported directly to the treatment program from the jail. Those who score a 3, which indicates a high probability of substance dependence, are referred to outpatient substance abuse treatment. Parolees with mental health or sex offender treatment requirements are also referred to treatment by the agents in the jails. Starting in April, 886 tests were administered, with 133 resulting in a referral to residential treatment. The agents in the jails began outpatient referrals in October, with 42 done over a two-month period.

In addition, Community Mental Health of Clinton-Eaton-Ingham Counties was contracted to provide 60 hours of cognitive programming to eligible parolees. The focus was teaching relevant interpersonal skills and using a social learning and educational approach to address relapse and recidivism. Services began in February, with a total of 992 parolees enrolled in the program. During that same period the program had a successful completion rate of approximately 93%.

From January 1, until November 30, 2005, the IDRP processed in 1,417 and processed out 1,394 parolees. Approximately 46% came from parole offices in Wayne County, with approximately 11% from Oakland County, 9% from Ingham County, and 7.5% from Macomb County.
2005 Parole Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAROLE CONSIDERATION CASES:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parole Grants:</td>
<td>12,079 – 54.7 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parole Denials:</td>
<td>10,018 – 45.3 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Alternative Incarceration Paroles:</td>
<td>572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prisoner Interviews:</td>
<td>21,038</td>
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<td>Continuances without Interview:</td>
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<td>Paroles without Interview:</td>
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<td>Lifer Interview/Review:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parole Suspensions:</td>
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<td>Other Referrals:</td>
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<td>Prisoner Grievances:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pardon/Commutation Applications:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Video Conferencing Interviews:</td>
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<td>Victim Notifications:</td>
<td>9,310</td>
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<tr>
<th>PAROLE VIOLATION CASES:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Parole Violation Arraignments:</td>
<td>2,858</td>
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<tr>
<td>Formal Hearings:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prisoners Approved for Diversion Program:</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Facts and figures year end 2005

Michigan prisons:
Number of prisons .......................................................... 42
Number of camps ............................................................. 7
Special Alternative Incarceration Program ......................... 1
Prisoner population—institutions and camps ....................... 49,546
Number of prisoners age 17 or less ................................. 94
Number of parolees ......................................................... 17,168
Number of probationers .................................................. 53,375
Number of offenders in Corrections Centers ....................... 22
Prisoners on Electronic Monitoring .................................. 94
Total offenders supervised by MDOC .............................. 120,205
Fiscal Year 2005 budget: ................................................. $1,761,582,600
Number of MDOC staff including corrections officers ........... 16,935

Michigan prisoners:
Average age for men .................................................. 36
Average age for women .................................................. 37
Black .......................................................... 52.3%
White .......................................................... 44.8%
American Indians, Hispanics and Asians .......................... 2.9%
Facts and figures year end 2005

Percentage of prisoners housed at security level:

Community Residential Programs (CRP): ........................................................ 0.2%
Level I: ........................................................................................................... 39.4%
Level II: ........................................................................................................ 36.6%
Level III: ........................................................................................................ 2.2%
Level IV: ........................................................................................................ 9.0%
Level V: ........................................................................................................ 2.8%
Administrative Segregation: ........................................................................... 2.7%
Detention: ...................................................................................................... 0.7%
Reception: ...................................................................................................... 3.0%
Other special use housing such as mental health, protective segregation: ......... 3.4%

Prison commitments: .................................................................................... 10,231
(excluding additional sentence imposed)

Yearly costs per prisoner

Average: ......................................................................................................... $25,601

Minimum:
Level I: ........................................................................................................... $20,259
Medium/Close:
Level II: ........................................................................................................ $22,563
Level III: discontinued
Level IV: ........................................................................................................ $27,236
Maximum:
Level V: ........................................................................................................ $31,385
Multi-Level: .................................................................................................. $25,601

Corrections Centers ...................................................................................... $15,978
Electronic Monitoring System ................................................................. $2,199
Parole/Probation Supervision: ................................................................. $1,977
Michigan Department of Corrections
Correctional Facilities Administration
Prison and Camp Facilities
As of December 31, 2004

Map

INSTITUTIONS (44)
□ CAMPS (11)

1. Ojibway Correctional Facility
   B. Camp Ottawa
2. Baraga Max. Correctional Facility
   A. Camp Keweenaw
3. Marquette Branch Prison
4. Alger Max. Correctional Facility
   C. Camp Casine
5. Newberry Correctional Facility
   D. Camp Marquette
6. Chippewa Correctional Facility
7. Straits Correctional Facility
8. Hiawatha Correctional Facility
9. Kinnos Correctional Facility
10. Camp Kohler
11. Pugalee Correctional Facility
12. Oakes Correctional Facility
13. G. Camp Sauble
14. Standish Max. Correctional Facility
   F. Camp Lehman
15. Eames C. Brooks Correctional Facility
16. Muskegon Correctional Facility
17. West Shoreline Correctional Facility
18. Carson City Correctional Facility
19. Boyer Road Correctional Facility
20. Mid-Michigan Correctional Facility
21. Pine River Correctional Facility
22. St. Louis Correctional Facility
23. Saginaw Correctional Facility
24. Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
25. Ionia Maximum Correctional Facility
26. Deerfield Correctional Facility
27. Michigan Reformatory-
□
28. Battle Creek Correctional Facility
29. Riker's Correctional Facility
30. Thumb Correctional Facility
   H. Camp Tuscola
31. Marcomb Correctional Facility
32. G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
33. Cooper Street Correctional Facility
34. K. SAI (Boot Camp)
35. Charles E. Egler RGC

□ Includes reception centers
+ Private, leased institution operated by Wackenhut Corporation for prisoners under the age of 20.
* Currently not operational

Source: Correctional Facilities Administration
MAP
Michigan Department of Corrections
Field Operations Administration Regions and Areas
As of December 31, 2004

Source: Field Operations Administration