



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

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Director

PRRS Quarterly Chief's Report

June 6, 2013 (Updates since March 7, 2013)

Highlights

- 1. Accreditation:** Two auditors from the American Correctional Association found PRRS in compliance with 33 mandatory standards, and 208 of the 209 non-mandatory standards for a combined performance rating of 99.52%. In the comments about their findings, the auditors noted that the program's greatest strength is the staff, and indicated that they were struck with their graciousness, knowledge, and professionalism, but most of all by their sense of ownership in the program. In meeting with Residents, one auditor reported that Residents were overwhelmingly positive about the program and commented favorably on the food and medical services. In August, the ACA auditors will present their report to ACA Commission recommending the accreditation of PRC. Special Accreditation Officer Karla Rhodes and Deputy Chief of Security and Facility Ben Stevenson led the effort to prepare PRRS for the audit.
- 2. DOCR Annual Awards:** On May 6, DOCR held its annual awards ceremony honoring staff members and volunteers who demonstrated outstanding performance in 2012. For PRRS, Case Manager Darrel Coach received the Division Employee of the Year for his work ethic and commitment to his clients and their families. Resident Supervisor Ivan Downing, Reentry Assessment Specialist Kendra Jochum, and Deputy Chief of Security and Facility Ben Stevenson received Certificate of Outstanding Performance Medallions; Correctional Health Nurse Marcia Durant and Correctional Dietary Supervisor Robyn McCormick received Outstanding Performance Certificates; Community Advisory Committee member Eric Brenner received a Volunteer Special Appreciation Medallion, and Liz Laird and Reverend Dr. Elwood Grey received Volunteer Special Appreciation certificates. For reviving a Resident on Unit 1 with CPR, Resident Supervisors Kenny Sterling and Shon McCall received a departmental Valor award.
- 3. Hillel Raskas Memorial Annual Employee Services Award:** Case Manager Daniel E. Keener was the first recipient of this new annual award that recognizes staff members who provide excellent services to Residents. In a celebration involving Residents, Staff, and family members from Dan and Hillel's family on May 30, Dan's twenty-five years of service to Residents and their families was extolled by both staff and former Residents. The award is named in memory of Hillel Raskas who was a Work Release Coordinator at PRC and who passed away last year.
- 4. Montgomery College GED Program:** The College began provided GED services at the Pre-Release Center on May 6. Offered two hours an evening Monday through Thursday, the program aims to assist Residents obtain alternative secondary diplomas through a combination of class instruction and individual-paced learning strategies. The College will help PRRS residents navigate the planned changes in the GED now that it is privately owned by a testing service.

Beginning in 2014, the GED will become more challenging and aligned with federal Core Curriculum Standards, the administrative fee will be increased, and testing will occur entirely online. Residents enrolled in the GED program will also be enrolled in the College and have access to the college resources (gym, library, counseling, student union, etc.) and will receive a student ID.

Program Developments

- 1. Montgomery College Counseling:** Montgomery College is continuing its collaboration with DOCR and exploring offering counseling services at the Pre-Release Center for interested Residents and their families. Although its recent federal grant application titled “Transforming the Pipeline from Prison into Educational Bridges to Employment,” was not awarded funds, the agencies are looking at options to implement many of the innovations offered in the grant proposal that do not require funding.
- 2. Workplace Digital Literacy Skills Program:** This federally funded program under the Second Chance Act will officially complete on June 30. Many of the services offered in the grant will continue including the digital literacy class offered to all new Residents, and counseling and support services from Montgomery College and Workforce Solutions Group. Both partners pledged to find resources to continue their work at the Pre-Release Center.
- 3. Federal Bureau of Prison Monitoring Visit:** On March 27 & 28, FBOP Contract Oversight Manager Carolyn Dunson conducted an audit of PRC related to its care and services to federal residents. Overall, she reported positive findings but did indicate that there was one deficiency with regard to documenting meetings between Residents and Case Managers. A remediation plan was immediately adopted to address this issue.
- 4. Local Services Inventory Revised Training:** On May 15 and 16, PRRS Case Managers and Work Release coordinators received training in the administration of the LSI-R risk/needs assessment instrument. PRRS uses this instrument on intake to assess the needs of Residents and to help develop reentry plans.

Work Release Statistics (April 2013 presented at May 7 staff meeting)

Work Release Performance Measures														
DATE: May 7, 2013 (FN 1)														
Employed Residents										Unemployed Residents				
Unit	Wed 12am Count	FT Community Employment > 32 Hours Per Week	PT Community Employment 31- 25 Hours Per Week	PT Community Employment < 25 Hours Per Week	Inside Employment (FN 2)	Approved Alternative Placement (FN 3)	Total	Community Work Employed %	Work Release Engaged %	Transfer < 21 Days	Transfer > 21 Days	Total	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate Net New Arrivals
1	18	4	3	0	0	0	7	38.9%	38.9%	5	6	11	61.1%	46.2%
2	49	17	8	4	6	0	35	51.0%	71.4%	8	6	14	28.6%	14.6%
3	51	24	2	5	4	0	35	51.0%	68.6%	13	3	16	31.4%	7.9%
4	49	23	4	6	5	2	40	55.1%	81.6%	6	3	9	18.4%	7.0%
Total	167	68	17	15	15	2	117	50.9%	70.1%	32	18	50	29.9%	13.3%
Footnote 1: Data collection on Wednesday using midnight count and inclusive of releasees later that day. (Data entered in green cells only)														
Footnote 2: Individuals are assigned to inside worker status for programmatic and security reasons.														
Footnote 3: Individuals approved due to medical/disability/retirement factors														

Security/Facility

- 1. Resident Assault on Staff:** On May 31, a Resident assaulted a Resident Supervisor. He has been revoked from the program and has been criminally charged.
- 2. Resident Theft of Petty Cash:** On June 3, a Resident was captured on video surveillance entering and exiting the Resident Supervisor office during which nearly \$400 was taken from the petty cash draw. He was transported to the jail and admitted his crime. Most of the money was recovered and he has been criminally charged.
- 3. Americans with Disability Act Renovations:** The Department of General Services, the County's agency overseeing the renovation of PRRS to make some of its living units compliant with ADA, arranged several visits with contractors and subcontractors for the work which will commence this summer. The renovations will include making three bathrooms and rooms on Unit 4 handicapped accessible along with the front entrance way.
- 4. PRC Garden:** Resident Supervisor Wendy Qassis initiated a project with Residents to create a garden within the courtyard of the Pre-Release program. The Residents have done all the work and are now growing tomatoes, peppers, chives, and watermelons. Wendy has also led other green initiatives including improving the recycling statistics at the Pre-Release Center.

Personnel

1. Arrivals

- Ms. Christina Brown was selected as a Resident Supervisor beginning on June 3. For the last year, she worked as an intern at the Pre-Release Center. She holds a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Criminology from the University of Maryland College Park.
- Community Correction Interns
 - Ms. Aliyyah Ferguson is a graduate of Southeastern University in Washington DC with a major in Criminal Justice. She also received an MBA from Strayer University. At PRC, she will assist with the program's cognitive behavioral treatment programming and report to Unit 4.
 - Ms. Taylor Dye received her Bachelors of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from York College of Pennsylvania. She will be working with the Work Release Coordinators, and report to Unit II.
 - Mr. Joel Levitt earned his Bachelors of Science in Criminal Justice from Indiana University. He will participate in a Justice Reinvestment project which is a collaboration with the County's Innovation office (12 hours weekly). He will be initiating Phase I of program evaluation, developing the initial data points to match program attendance to recidivism rates. The other half of his time will be spent conducting MVA, SSA, birth certificate, Inter-Faith clothing and other community trips.
 - Mr. Quincy Juean graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminology from the University of Minnesota-Duluth. He has been a Correctional Officer and is a Public Safety Officer for Montgomery College. He will be assigned to work with the youthful residents in the Career Resource Center.
 - Ms. Claudia Rivas graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Marymount University. Her experience as a victim's Crisis Intervention Specialist through Community Advocates for Family and Youth led to her interest in transitional services to improve public safety. She is fluent in Spanish and will assist PRRS screening section.

2. Departures

- Ms. Kayi Somado-Hemazro accepted a promotion as a Case Manager with DOCR's Pre-Trial's Intervention Program for Substance Abuse beginning June 3. She worked for PRRS for five years first as an intern for a year and then as a Resident Supervisor. While a Resident Supervisor, she prepared herself for the Case Management position by participating in a PACE program that allowed her to shadow a PRRS Case Manager.
- Ms. Caryline Kelly completed her one-year Community Correction Internship in May.
- Mr. Russell Lefurgy worked as a public intern for two years and served as a file clerk at PRC. He completed his internship in May.

3. Promotions

- Ms. Karla Rhodes was selected for the newly created PRRS Program Specialist Position. The position oversees accreditation processes as well as assists in some administrative duties. Karla was a Resident Supervisor II and for the past two years served as the Temporary Special Assignment Accreditation Officer for PRRS. She has helped lead PRRS through recent successful accreditation processes with the MCCS and ACA. Additionally, she has 10 years' experience as a Correction Officer and as a Resident Supervisor. The position was recently created by abolishing and upgrading an Office Service Coordinator position.
- Mr. Chris Massad was promoted to Resident Supervisor II after one year of service as a RS I and after demonstrating his mastery of RS II duties.

4. Vacancies: PRRS is in the process of hiring for one vacant Resident Supervisor position.

5. Professional Development

- LSI-R training held for Case Managers on May 15 and 16.
- Program Specialist Karla Rhodes and Resident Supervisor III Mark Myrick attended a Correctional Accreditation Manager's Association conference in Richmond in May specifically to attend workshops on new standards related to the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act.
- Program Specialist Karla Rhodes and Resident Supervisor III Jasper Ezeigbo attended a training sponsored by the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards to prepare them to serve as Duly Authorized Inspectors on audits.

Escapes (Last 12 months)

No escapes in calendar year 2013

Escape Date	Return Date	Last Name	First Name	Description	Disposition
10/16/2012	10/16/2012	Graham	Mark	Attempted Escape: Restrained by RS staff	12/6/12: Sentenced to 6 months. Withdrew appeal on May 13, 2013.
11/30/2012	1/15/13	Pope	Donte	Failure to return from Authorized Community Pass	4/26/13: Sentenced to 18 months + 6 month sentence for MJ possession + loss of good time == > 3 years of extra time.

Population Served

Month	Mar	Apr	May
PRRS Average Daily Population	152.4	148.5	152.5
Local Jail Resident Subgroup	116.8	112.2	117.4
Federal Resident Subgroup	35.5	36.3	35.1
Female Subgroup	11.2	12.3	15.1
Home Confinement Subgroup	14.1	14.7	13.8

Visits/Events/Meetings (exclusive of those mentioned before)

1. 3/7/13: Tour of Correctional Professionals from Spokane County, Washington.
2. 3/28/13: Attendance at evening Victims Services Advisory Board meeting.
3. 4/8/13: PRRS Staff participation in policy meeting on correctional education sponsored by the Vera Institute and the US DOE's Office of Adult and Vocational Education.
4. 4/11/13: Tour of Pre-Release by Homeland Minister of El Salvador and other representatives.
5. 4/11/13: Meeting with literacy council of Montgomery County.
6. 4/17/13: Attendance at meeting of Montgomery Coalition of Adult English Literacy.
7. 4/19/13: Meeting with University of Maryland at College Park professor.
8. 4/21/13: Presentation at River Road Unitarian/Universalist Congregation.
9. 4/24/13: Montgomery County Public Defenders tour PRC.
10. 4/25/13: Attendance at evening meeting of Victims Services Advisory Board
11. 4/27/13: Attendance at Reentry panel discussion held at People's Baptist Church Silver Spring.
12. 4/29/13: Participation in Ford Foundation sponsored event on Correctional Education.
13. 5/4/13: Participation in National Memorial ceremony for fallen correctional officers at the Law Enforcement Memorial in Judiciary Square, DC.
14. 5/15/13: Attendance at Drug Court Graduation.
15. 5/21/13: Visiting delegation from the United Arab Emirates.
16. 5/23/13: Attendance at Victims Services Advisory Board.
17. 5/28/13: Meeting with State Attorney and staff about victim issues at PRRS and federal resident population.
18. 5/29/13: Visit from representatives of the MacArthur Foundation.
19. 5/30/13: Meeting with Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless.
20. 6/4/13: Participation in Montgomery County policy led quarterly meeting on sex offenders.
21. 6/5/13: Visit from student at University of Maryland University College.