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CORRECTIONS



Cover Story

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Inmate Garments	Uniform Shirts & Pants, Work Shirts & Pants, Maternity Uniforms, Denim Jeans, Unisex Jumpsuits, Jail Suits, Scrub Suits, Coats, Pajamas & Robes, Insulated Coveralls, T-Shirts, Boxers, Thermals, Belts, Ball Caps & Stocking Caps
Hospital Garments	Pajamas, Robes, Gowns, Scrubs & Lab Coats
Staff Uniforms	Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) Shirts & Pants, Staff Uniform Shirts & Pants, Belts, Ball Caps & Boonie Hats
Food Service	Staff & Butcher Smocks, Cook's Hats, Aprons, Kitchen Mitts, Dish Towels & Table Cloths
Bedding & Bath	Bath Towels, Sheets, Blankets, Shower Curtains & Mattress Covers
Garments Misc.	Duffle Bags, Tote Bags, Canteen Bags, Laundry Bags, Utility Bags, Beach Bags, Emergency Blankets & Tarps



Inside Corrections is an Oklahoma Department of Corrections monthly publication distributed to employees, retirees and friends of criminal justice, to enhance communications and provide information on the development and achievements of this agency.

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On the Cover

Jackie Brannon
Correctional Center
preparing for "Ryan's Run"
an annual fundraiser
started in 1996.

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OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MISSION:

TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC, THE EMPLOYEES,
AND THE OFFENDERS

All employees are encouraged to submit articles, letters, comments and ideas for future issues. Copy should be submitted to marcella.reed@doc.state.ok.us by e-mail, on diskette or typewritten and must be received no later than the 10th of the month. Statements contained in articles submitted to Inside Corrections are the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions or policies of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. All articles are subject to editing, with every effort made to preserve the item's essential meaning.

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Welcome to *Inside Corrections*



“If it is to be, let it begin with me.”

It is appropriate to quote Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for this special edition of *Inside Corrections*, not only because the nation recently celebrated his birthday but because of the appropriateness of the quote’s relationship to community service.

Our nation is internationally renowned for its giving spirit in time and money. Oklahoma is one state that continues to rank high in philanthropy. It is often said that the easiest thing a person can do is to donate by writing a check and the most difficult

is to donate one’s time. One of the most fulfilling items in one’s life can be giving of yourself to a worthy cause. That cause can be assisting in raising funds for an ill coworker or participating in causes of a national or international scale. Sometimes the most rewarding are the smallest efforts like handing out winter coats to underprivileged children or donating/boxing can goods for a food drive. The beauty of such acts is the fact you have made a free choice to do so, have the ability to carry it out and reside in a country where freedom of choice is a foundation.

The Department of Corrections is the recipient of a great amount of community service in the broader sense. Through our traditional and non traditional volunteers, much community service is provided. As with us, many of these volunteers have full time jobs but yet find the time to follow their heart toward community service fulfillment.

One of the most rewarding experiences is that of giving with no strings attached. The Department of Corrections employees are renowned for their volunteer spirit. Our giving is too numerous to mention in this short introduction but areas such as Special Olympics and Angel Tree are two recognizable areas. So enjoy this special edition of *Inside Corrections* and I encourage you to exercise your freedom of choice and to continue to give of yourself for community service projects.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Justin Jones
Director
Oklahoma Department of Corrections

DOC AUDIT RESULTS

A Job Well Done

Well...after six months of auditing, the results of the legislative mandated top to bottom performance review a.k.a. audit... of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections has concluded.

A sincere and hardy THANK YOU goes out to all the employees of the department who make our agency one of the best in the nation. I believe that our BEST IN THE NATION STATUS is confirmed by this audit process. Also, a thank you must be given to our predecessors who have retired etc., as we did not become one of the best without their efforts. I know many employees had an opportunity to visit with auditors as you have shared some of the auditors’ comments with me. Auditor comments as summarized ranged from their amazement of how much we do with so little...how innovative the department is...high degree of dedication and level of professionalism at all levels of the organization...how cooperative and helpful staff were...the productive interaction of staff and offenders...and many more superlatives and compliments too many of which to mention in this short writing. Suffice to say that I did not hear one negative comment from any of the array of auditors utilized in this process.

I also would like to take a moment to thank the auditing firm of MGT as they were professional, objective, comprehensive and had a vast body of knowledge in our profession which was clearly demonstrated by not only the manner by which they conducted the audit but by the final audit product report.

The department provided the auditors a self analysis of weaknesses and strengths in

preparation for the audit. Also, results from our Quality Assurance process were shared. This was all prepared in an effort to increase transparency and to assist the auditors with this monumental task. If we receive permission to do so, the complete audit will be indexed and placed on our website. This will be in keeping with our goal of transparency and open government operations.

The core issues of the primary audit focus were:

Population and Capacity Management
Community Programs
Institutional Operations
Administrative and Support Services

Of course there are many sub-categories under each one of these headings and there was also some review of the parole process, the Criminal Justice Resource Center, diversion programs and population projections. Rather than to go into a number of specific details on the audit, as mentioned earlier, hopefully the audit will be available on our website or at least linked to MGT or the State House of Representatives or State Senate websites if they also post the audit report. However, in summary I was extremely pleased with the audit. There were no surprises and no major weaknesses identified that were not previously mentioned in our self analysis or otherwise aware of. The audit includes an assortment of recommendations small and large, simple and complex. Some recommendations can be accomplished with policy changes and others will require legislation and or legislative funding. There are some recommendations that are outside of the purview of the department. Also there are some recommendations that will require further data collection, bench marking and gap analysis before decisions can be made. There will be some recommendations that it may not be in the best interest of the state to implement. There may be some items in the audit that we in the profession would say are insignificant but external stakeholders may see them differently. The audit does an excellent job demonstrating the complexity of an evidenced based comprehensive correctional system.

There are many role models in life and in our current world, most attention gravitates toward the media and/or sport personalities. True role models are those that have impact in ones life whether it is as a mentor or some other type of positive influence. Role models can also be groups of people who provide an invaluable service. Such is the case with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Not that anyone required confirmation, but the employees of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections serve as a role model for public safety, public efficiency, dedication, and being the best in the profession. So congratulations on an excellent audit and keep up the great work.

BEYOND

the Call of Duty

On Wednesday, January 3, 2008, at approximately 1040 hours, Johnny Blevins, Administrator of Internal Affairs, Assistant District Supervisor King and Assistant District Supervisor Matthews were traveling east on the Will Rogers Turnpike between the city of Claremore and Catoosa, when an out of control vehicle came from the opposite direction. The state vehicle swerved to miss the on coming car and was successful with no injuries to the employees.

When the state vehicle came to a stop, Mr. Blevins rushed back to determine the condition of the individual driving the out of control vehicle, which appeared to have hit an embankment and flipped end over end.

Upon arriving at the vehicle, Mr. Blevins observed Sgt. Tim Adams and two (2) inmates attempting to open the vehicle door which appeared jammed. Once the door was open, Sgt. Adams began to verbally calm the driver of the vehicle. Simultaneously, the vehicle motor appeared to be catching fire and inmates were attempting to open the hood of the vehicle as one inmate ran back to the Department of Transportation (DOT) van and obtained a fire extinguisher. By the time the inmate had returned from the van other inmates had opened the hood and the fire was extinguished.

Once the situation at the first wrecked vehicle was under control, inmates returned to the area of the van and began assisting Mr. Blevins in slowing traffic as another wrecked vehicle remained in the road way.

Once the Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) arrived all five inmates returned to the van, awaiting Sgt. Adams. At this time, I also approached the van thanking each of the five inmates for their heroic actions.

I am now forwarding this information to your attention in regard to a job well done by Sgt. Tim Adams and his assigned inmate crew.



In Other Words

To Whom It May Concern,

I just saw a show on Animal Planet regarding the cell dogs and inmates of Lexington, Oklahoma. I was so impressed with these wonderful programs and what it does for both sides. What a great way to use the time of the inmates, who obviously also get a great deal of love and respect from their dogs. Even more outstanding was that there are two different dog programs and that the handlers of the dogs get hand picked. Furthermore, it was so interesting seeing these men with their dogs, that they are still loving, dedicated human beings and it showed a very important aspect one easily forgets when thinking of "prisoners." Unfortunately I live in Asia halfway across the world from the U.S., otherwise I had a few dogs I had my heart going out to.

Christina Limburger

Director Jones,

I would like to thank the Oklahoma Department of Corrections and the Tuition Assistance Program personnel who worked to help me attain my Bachelor's in Arts Degree this May from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant, Oklahoma.

Without the assistance of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections and this program, I would not have been able to attain a higher education degree. As the head of a large household with four children, money would have been very difficult to set aside for this expensive endeavor. I am proud to say that I have finally been able to achieve my goal that I thought almost impossible to reach financially and owe much of my success to the Tuition Assistance Program funding.

I have personally talked with many of my peers about the program and how it helped me with my higher education goals. Many of my co-workers are now enrolled in a college or university program or will participate in the fall. Hopefully, with a higher education degree, I will promote within the department and have another positive example to attribute to the Tuition Program.

I hope the Department of Corrections continues to fund this program and consider expanding it in the near future to help em-

ployees attain a Master's degree. I know I would be interested in a Master's degree with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections' assistance.

Again, the staff of the Tuition Assistance Program has my deepest appreciation.

Leonard A. Howard Jr.

LIEUTENANT
JACKIE BRANNON
CORRECTIONAL CENTER

Dean Harbeck,

Please pass along to all involved our thanks for the fine furniture that was built for us.

We are really enjoying it.

We appreciate the work that was put into the construction of this furniture and the amount of storage that we have.

Case Management Staff

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
COLLEGE OF NURSING
CASE MANAGEMENT

Warden Addison,

On behalf of the National Inmate Survey (NIS), I would like to express our gratitude for your assistance in implementing the NIS at Joseph Harp Correctional Center. The NIS is dependent on the cooperation of facility leadership and staff, and we appreciate all of the time, resources, and guidance you, Debbie Dorris, Captain Givens, and the other staff involved provided to us as we worked with you on this important, challenging study.

Specifically, we appreciate all that you did to accommodate the team of interviewers, from our early conversations about logistics to providing the interviewers with everything they needed during the week of data collection. It was a pleasure working with you.

Jennifer Hardison

RESEARCH TRIANGLE INSTITUTE

Warden Higgins,

I believe nowadays that people are most apt to complain when they believe something is wrong than to give praise when a job is well done. That's why I am writing to praise

the job well done by the visitation officers at your facility on Sunday, July 22, 2007. The mother of an inmate, after spending some time outside visiting, suffered from what appeared to be a heat stroke. Upon reentering the visitation room, she was not able to walk on her own and appeared barely conscious. Both Officer Bell and Officer Wallace – the two officers working the visitation room – quickly reacted and assessed the situation. They immediately called for help and later requested an ambulance for the lady. They showed both compassion and professionalism while assisting in the situation.

Their reaction and the speed with which they handled the situation makes me feel more comfortable in the idea of bringing my own mother with me to visit. I believe they both should be given a pat on the back for a job well done.

L. Renee Wingo

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Director Jones,

The Law Enforcement Torch Run just held its International Conference in Oklahoma City, October 31st through November 4th. We had nearly 1,000 officers from all 50 states and several counties in attendance. Notes being received from all over the country are telling us that this was by far the best conference that has ever been put on.

The comments start from the greeting that the officers received at the airport, to the greetings received at the hotels.

I was in charge of the greeters at the airport and had several dozen Special Olympic athletes at the airport to greet the incoming attendees. Along with the athletes, I also had several Law Enforcement officers assist the athletes. Debbie Dorris, from your organization, is on the Statewide Committee for the Law Enforcement Torch Run. I asked her if she could provide some officers to assist at the airport in Oklahoma City. Debbie came up with 7 officers that could assist. The officers she sent up to the airport did a fabulous job. They were each assigned a Special Olympic athlete to assist them in greeting the attendees. They were also assigned to help drive attendees to the local hotels in courtesy vans.

The officers seemed to really enjoy their as-

signment with the athletes, of whom I'm very protective, and they put my mind at ease with their handling of those athletes.

I would like to commend Capt. Joe Gilleland, Lt. Damon Wilbur, Lt. David Ramsey, Sgt. Keith Cornelius, Sgt. James Nicole, Sgt. Steven Paul, and Officer Travis Ary for a very fine job. They made the attendees feel very welcome to Oklahoma and presented themselves in a very professional manner, one that would make any supervisor proud of their actions.

Again, thank you for allowing these officers to assist me at the recent Law Enforcement Torch Run International Conference.

Mark A. Wollmershauser

TULSA POLICE DEPARTMENT
LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Warden Sirmons,

I wrote you a letter back in July of this year letting you know all the great treatment I received while visiting my then common law husband, Wayne Graham, #934966.

We had the opportunity to visit again in September and make our marriage official. Many people helped us along the way and I wish to recognize them in this letter. Beginning with Deputy Warden Linda Morgan, Unit Manager Darrel Wilson and Lori Eaves CMII who approved our special visits once again. And this time we did get our 4 hours for all but 2 of our visitation days. And that is when Wayne and I had to cut it short. One due to my health and one due to a bathroom break. But, we were so happy to have received that time together.

I would also like to pay tribute to your fine visiting staff which included, Officers Dahlberg, Sager, Brown, Early, Whitfield, Few, and Key. All were very nice and all gave us the most time allowed. Again, for which we are truly grateful.

I would also like to pay tribute to Officers Martin and Schulter who were present at our wedding and showed us great respect during our 30 minute visit after the ceremony. Also, Elaine and Chaplin's secretary and Michael Corswall. I may have that last name wrong, but they were our witnesses for which we were grateful. Jack Peery is the one who performed the ceremony. All were outstanding!

Thank you and your staff once again for a very pleasant experience in your institution.

Jean Grabamo
LYONS, KANSAS

Director Jones,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the DOC staff for your assistance in preparations for the opening and dedication of the "Find of the Century" at the Freedom Museum in Freedom, Oklahoma.

Specifically, I would like to thank Lt. Sam Jones and his work crew from Bill Johnson Correctional Center in Alva for providing the museum with a great deal of help. Lt. Jones is always willing to help when the need arises and has helped us with many projects that we could not have accomplished. His crew is always extremely courteous, well-supervised, and especially careful of the fragile condition of some of our displays.

Also, special thanks to Ken Klingler and his OCI staff, who went the extra mile to ensure that our benches were delivered prior to the open house and dedication. They are a very special part of the exhibit, honoring the original members of the museum board whose vision has come to fruition with the dedication of the new exhibit.

The "Find of the Century" is an exhibit that has been twenty years in the planning. It is a state-of-the-art display depicting a life in northwest Oklahoma some 30,000 years ago, housing artifacts collected in the late 1980's from a ranch in this area. Our museum also proudly contains hundreds of pieces of memorabilia from members of the community that capture the history of a culture long forgotten. Perhaps, though, our most unique quality is that our museum is solely a volunteer project where people still give freely of their time and efforts to make it a place for people of all ages to visit, enjoy, and learn from. And, we have never charged an admission fee.

I hope that you, your staff, and their families will have an opportunity to visit our museum in the near future.

Once again, thanks very much.

Sandra Wimmoro

FREEDOM MUSEUM
FREEDOM, OKLAHOMA

Director Jones,

Please extend to Warden Randy Workman our sincere appreciation for visiting our campus. On Friday, October 26th, Warden Workman spoke to our Adult Correctional Systems class here on the East Central University campus. Warden Workman did an outstanding job of giving our students a perspective of what it is like to work in an

Oklahoma penal facility.

We appreciate Warden Workman's taking the time out of his busy schedule to become involved in the lives and futures of our students. Many of these students will one day join the ranks of DOC employees. We hope that Warden Workman continues to visit ECU and speak to future classes. Warden Workman has also allowed our interns to be supervised at his facility, and for this we are extremely grateful. Last year, our Intern of the Year Award went to Clint Fisher, who performed his internship at the Lexington Assessment and Reception Center.

Next week, we will take our CRJS 2253 Adult Corrections class on a tour of the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, and we are looking forward to this event. Please extend our thanks to Warden Marty Sirmons for making this possible.

We also look forward to having you on our campus in December. I have spoken with Dr. Burns, Dr. Hall and Professor McElhannon and plan to have their classes in attendance as well when you speak. It is always a pleasure to hear you speak and I learn something of value each time.

Thank you again for the Oklahoma Department of Corrections continued support of education and the experiential learning of our students through tours and lectureships.

Dan Denny, Ed.D.

COORDINATOR
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

Joyce Jackson,

Thanks so much for the story.

I appreciate your time, talent and effort and have received a lot of positive feedback on the article.

Bob Raines

FORMER OSP WARDEN

Inside Corrections welcomes the views of readers. Letters are subject to editing and must include name, address, and a daytime phone number. Send letters to Inside Corrections, Attn: Editor, 3400 Martin Luther King Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73111, or fax to (405) 425-2502. Address electronic mail to marcella.reed@doc.state.ok.us.

Council on Law Enforcement Education & Training

SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

The Correctional Training Academy in Wilburton hosted a graduation ceremony on September 26, 2007, for Correctional Officer Cadet Class WC071607. The 29 cadets in this class successfully completed the required 240 hours of pre-service instruction. Fifteen different facilities ranging in security level from maximum security to community security had students in WC071607.

The staff of the Correctional Training Academy in Wilburton would like to commend the Class of WC071607 on a job well done and wish them the best of luck in their careers with the Department of Corrections.



FAST FACTS

During 2007, a total of 337 correctional officer cadets attended Basic Correctional Officer Instruction.

GENDER BREAKDOWN

Males 73%
Females 27%

AGE BREAKDOWN

21-29 49%
30-39 27%
40-49 15%
50+ 9%

AWARD RECIPIENTS

JONATHAN S. HERLAN

Northeast District Community Corrections
Academic Award

PATRICK A. LUCAS

Howard McLeod Correctional Center
Academic Award

JONATHAN S. HERLAN

Northeast District Community Corrections
Class Speaker

DONNA E. WALKER

Tulsa County District Community Corrections
Outstanding Custody and Control

MICHAEL S. RAYNER

Mabel Bassett Correctional Center
Outstanding Firearms

Council on Law Enforcement Education & Training



OCTOBER 18, 2007

The Correctional Training Academy in Wilburton hosted a graduation ceremony on October 18, 2007, for Correctional Officer Cadet Class W091007. Stephen Brinlee, Mayor, City of Wilburton, was the graduation speaker. The 49 cadets in this class successfully completed the required 240 hours of pre-service instruction. Eighteen different facilities ranging in security level from maximum security to community security had students in W091007.

The staff of the Correctional Training Academy in Wilburton would like to commend the Class of W091007 on a job well done and wish them the best of luck in their careers with the Department of Corrections.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

GREGROY ADAMS

Joseph Harp Correctional Center
Academic Award

BRENT WILKS

Elk City Community Work Center
Academic Award

MICHAEL AU

Healdton Community Work Center
Class Speaker

TAI WILLIAMS

Walters Community Work Center
Class Speaker

BRENT WILKS

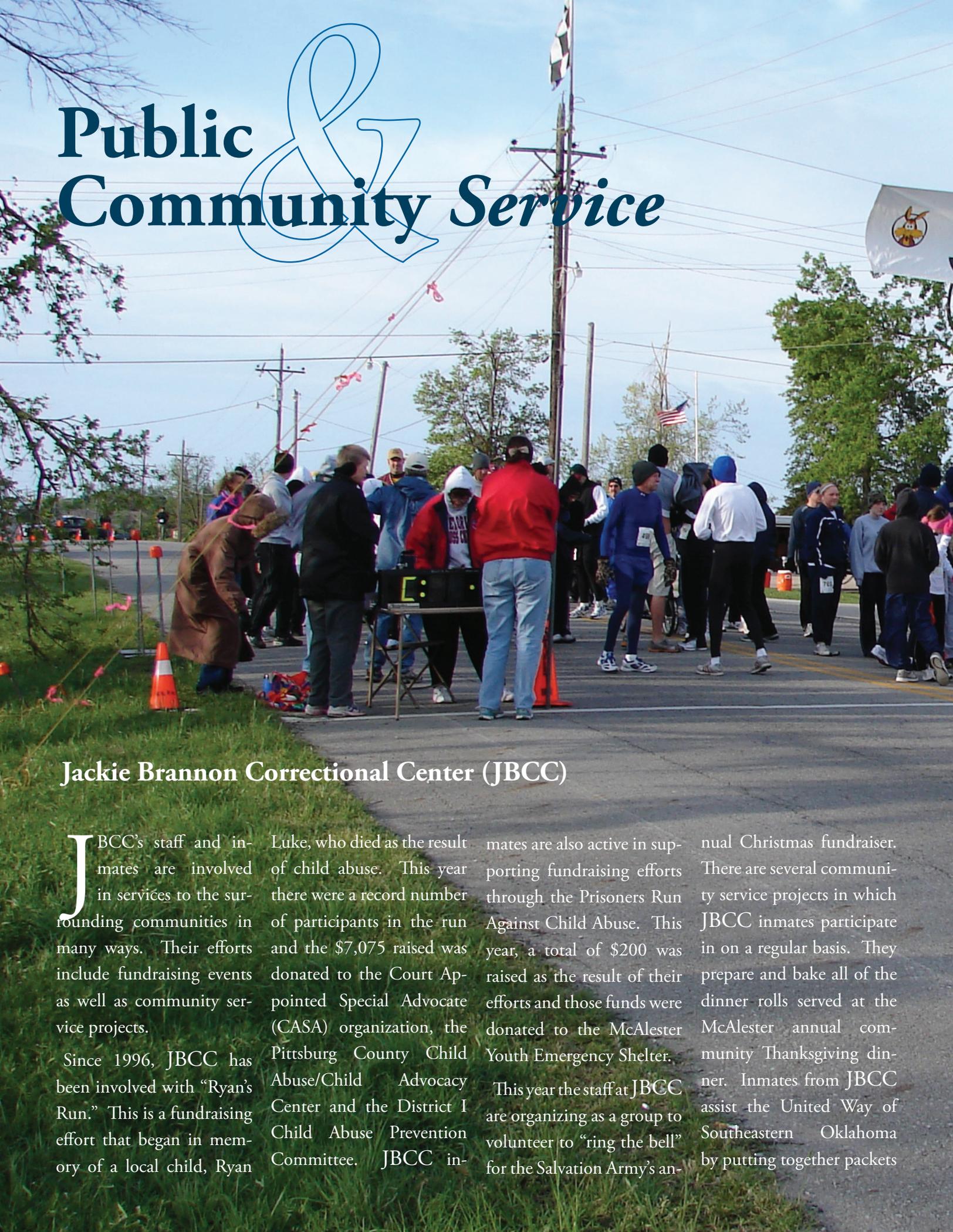
Elk City Community Work Center
Outstanding Performance

GREGROY ADAMS

Joseph Harp Correctional Center
Outstanding Performance



Public & Community Service



Jackie Brannon Correctional Center (JBCC)

JBCC's staff and inmates are involved in services to the surrounding communities in many ways. Their efforts include fundraising events as well as community service projects.

Since 1996, JBCC has been involved with "Ryan's Run." This is a fundraising effort that began in memory of a local child, Ryan

Luke, who died as the result of child abuse. This year there were a record number of participants in the run and the \$7,075 raised was donated to the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) organization, the Pittsburg County Child Abuse/Child Advocacy Center and the District I Child Abuse Prevention Committee. JBCC in-

mates are also active in supporting fundraising efforts through the Prisoners Run Against Child Abuse. This year, a total of \$200 was raised as the result of their efforts and those funds were donated to the McAlester Youth Emergency Shelter.

This year the staff at JBCC are organizing as a group to volunteer to "ring the bell" for the Salvation Army's an-

nual Christmas fundraiser. There are several community service projects in which JBCC inmates participate in on a regular basis. They prepare and bake all of the dinner rolls served at the McAlester annual community Thanksgiving dinner. Inmates from JBCC assist the United Way of Southeastern Oklahoma by putting together packets



John Lilley Correctional Center (JLCC)

Laundry Supervisor Jenni Wells was diagnosed with breast cancer in July of 2007. A dessert auction was held on August 2, 2007 for her and the auction raised over \$1500 to help defray costs for her medical treatment. The last dessert auctioned was an Italian cream cake and was baked by Procedures Officer Sherry Mooring. Her cake is well known at the facility as one of the best. Staff pooled their money and formed three groups to bid on the cake. The winning group bid \$155.00 for the cake.

Staff at the facility raised \$1000.00 for the 2007 CARE golf tournament. From the proceeds, the facility was able to help fund Little League teams in the Paden and Prague area. Paden t-ball teams one and two received \$200.00 donation to help purchase equipment for the season. Prague Little League Softball teams the Twisters and Little Devils each received a donation. The Twisters received \$150.00 donation that was placed in the leagues general fund to help wherever needed. The Little Devils received a \$100.00 donation that went towards the purchase of bats.

for their annual fund raising campaign, and this year their efforts produced approximately 1,500 packets. During Oklahoma State Penitentiary Rodeo season the inmates from JBCC volunteer their artistic abilities to the McAlester downtown merchants and decorated their windows. Inmates on the “Warden’s Crew” maintain the cem-

eteries of several communities in the surrounding area including Ward Springs, Bache, Cairo, and Ashland.

Both the staff and inmates at JBCC are involved in service to the community through fundraising efforts as well as donating time and energy into making our community a better place.

Dick Conner Correctional Center (DCCC)

Prisoners Run Against Child Abuse

DCCC's 27th annual prisoners run against child abuse raised \$530 for the Osage County Youth Shelter in Pawhuska.

The shelter is a residential treatment facility for abused and neglected children. It also houses runaway youth.

For the past 25 years the DCCC prisoners run has been conducted by recreation supervisor Carl "Chico" Sellers with the assistance of volunteer staff.

This year's event, which was held in April, involved 209 inmates who ran or walked a total of 2,241 miles.

Inmate participants were sponsored by family members as well as DCCC staff.

Northeast Oklahoma Correctional Center (NOCC) *Brings Home the 28th Annual Calf Fry Championship Title*

Rocky Mountain Oysters, Prairie Oysters, Montana Terdergroins, Calf Fries, or Cowboy Caviar; whatever your name for them, NOCC can cook them up for you. They aren't everyone's favorite, nor are they common on most dinner menus, however in the Northeast corner of the state they are considered a delicacy. They are so popular that the town of Vinita is known for their Annual Calf Fry Festival and Cook-off. Since 1995 NOCC has participated and won many awards but never have they won the main title of Calf Fry Cook-off Champions, until this year. With a secret recipe they will never reveal, this year will definitely go down in the books as the best and worst Calf Fry ever. Mother Nature was not on the teams' side as they attempted to heat oil in pots, decorate the tent and put out good hot food in a down pour of rain. Their tables were in lakes of water and their feet cold and wet, however they pushed on through. They fed hundreds of hungry calf fry tasters

who came out despite the mud and rain. There were several celebrity sightings, such as Carrie Netherton from Fox 23 News and Senator John Ford, as these were the judges who chose to crown NOCC the Calf Fry Cook-Off Champs. When they were called to accept their 1st Place ribbon for the Best Baked Bread competition they were happy and thought they were done for the day. However, as they stood silently listening to the other awards being announced they were shocked and surprised to hear "Northeast Oklahoma Correctional Center Calf Fry Cook-Off Champions for 2007!" All in all--they had a muddy good time!

The NOCC Calf Fry Team members not pictured below include: Deputy Warden Sharon Harrison, Chief Joe Nowlin, Jeff Harrison-Security Correctional Manager I, Melanie Brenton-Records Officer, Brandy Bynum-Security Correctional III, Diana Banks-Psych Intern, Anetta Potter and Dakota Potter.



L - R: Cheslea Fiedler (daughter of Lee Fiedler), Lee Fiedler, Food Service Manager I, Pam Scott, Food Service Supervisor IV, Shirley Stone, Food Service Manager II, Christine Bagby, Administrative Tech III NEDCC, Heather Harrison, Administrative Programs Officer, Beth Crockett, Case Manager and Elton Sunday, Head of Calf Fry Committee for the Vinita Chamber of Commerce.

Howard McLeod Correctional Center (HMCC)

Warden's Crew

The HMCC Warden's Crew provides inmate labor for projects for eligible local organizations or governmental agencies that serve the community interest. The crew is comprised of 8 PPWP eligible inmates supervised by Correctional Officer Derek Cave. The majority of the work performed by the crew involves clean up projects for numerous local cemeteries. They also have performed work in the aftermath of last winter's ice storms and the spring flooding around Lake Texoma. The crew is equipped with a number of mowers and weed trimmers and a trailer for transportation to the work site. No work is performed by the crew that is normally performed by civilian employees. Normally the organization requesting the assistance of the warden's crew only needs to call the facility to schedule a project and obtain the approval of the warden. The warden's crew provides a valuable service to the surrounding communities as well as cultivating good will with the citizens of Southeastern Oklahoma.



Jim E. Hamilton Correctional Center (JEHCC)

JEHCC has five DOC supervised inmate work crews which work out in the public. They pick up trash along highways covering all of LeFlore County. One crew picked up 337 bags of trash in 5 days. JEHCC has an "Adopt a Highway" project that is taken care of daily. The warden's crew works for the City of Poteau one week per month cutting brush, cleaning ditches and other various jobs. All five crews work in the communities cleaning cemeteries such as Whitesboro, Hodgen, Heavener, Big Creek, and Muse. During the summer months, these crews mow areas around Three Sticks, Heavener, Deer Pen, Kennedy Memorial, Heavener Chamber of Commerce, Heavener Rodeo arena, along highways in LeFlore County and several other places. During the fall and holiday seasons, these crews have cleaned up after the Heavener Carnival. They put up Christmas lights at Wister Lake. These crews are well known in the surrounding areas for their work on projects. If a community needs assistance with a special public project, they contact the facility for assistance. JEHCC will provide a crew to do special projects such as working on school buildings; either building, tearing down or cleaning, what ever is needed.



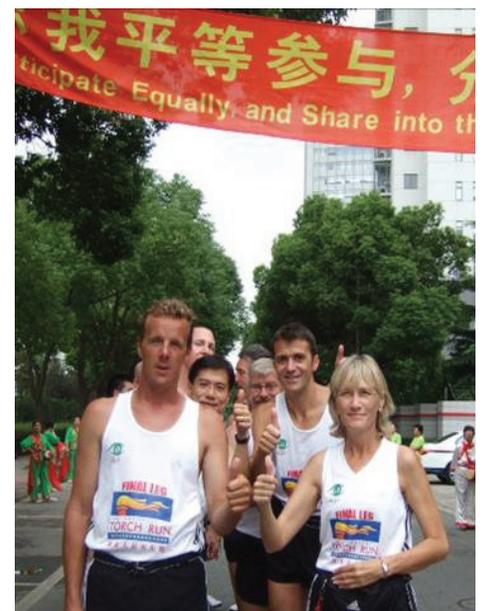
Adrian DeWendt, Oklahoma Special Olympics, Executive Director, Debbie Dorris, Warden's Assistant, JHCC, and Bart Conner, Olympic Gold Medalist.

JHCC, Warden's Assistant, Debbie Dorris, traveled to Shanghai, China to participate in the Global Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Final Leg October 2-11, 2007. The final leg began with the ignition of the "Flame of Hope" and the lighting of the torch in Athens, Greece. The torch traveled around the globe to more than 10 cities to celebrate the 2007 World Games and showcase Chinese culture. Law enforcement officers from around the world, including Dorris, served as Guardians of the Flame as

they traveled to Shanghai, China, to safely deliver the "Flame of Hope" to the 2007 World Games Opening Ceremonies. The event marked the first time the World Summer Games have been held in Asia, and only the second time they have been held outside the United States. The 2007 World Summer Games welcomed 7,500 athletes, 40,000 volunteers, 3,500 event officials, and thousands of families and spectators from every continent.

Debbie has been involved in Oklahoma Law Enforcement Torch Run

(LETR) for the past 10 years and has successfully coordinated fundraising events for last 7 years. She is the team leader for LETR at JHCC and is a member of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Torch Run Committee. She has attended several International LETR Conferences and was on the Planning Committee for the 2007 International LETR Conference hosted in Oklahoma City. Congratulations to Debbie for representing the Oklahoma Department of Corrections at this prestigious event.



Debbie Dorris (right) participates in the Global Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Final Leg held in China.

Inside Corrections *Salutes Special Olympics*

The Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) has participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) for Special Olympics for the past 22 years. The agency has sponsored numerous fundraisers, provided runners for the actual run, and has been one of the top fundraisers year after year. During 2007, ODOC raised approximately \$25,000 for Special Olympics.

William S. Key Correctional Center (WSKCC)

Woodward Crystal Christmas

In its 12th Year Woodward's crown jewel, "Crystal Christmas Light Display" has over 2 million holiday lights faithfully twinkling at Woodward's Crystal Beach Park. The event is open for approximately 7 weeks every year and attracts visitors for miles around. WSKCC has been there since day one and is proud of being instrumental in the creation and the continuing success of a Woodward community tradition.

WSKCC inmates are the work force that strings lights, paints displays, and maintains the day to day repairs throughout the event, and provides the manpower the rest of the year by checking and repairing all of the lights used in the displays, and remember we are talking about over 2 MILLION LIGHTS.

In a manner of speaking, WSKCC staff and inmates get to decorate in a big way for Christmas in Northwest Oklahoma.

WSKCC Tree Farm

In visualizing Northwest Oklahoma, trees are not a big part of the picture; however WSKCC is doing their part in changing this.

Wheatland Resource Conservation and WSKCC work together to grow thousands of trees for planting in Northwest Oklahoma communities. The project, called the

Power of Trees, began in February of 2005, with a \$25,000 grant funded by the National Tree Trust.

Wheatland RC&D purchased 9,500 seedlings and tree containers which went to WSKCC where inmates took care of the seedlings until they were ready to plant. Trees raised at

WSKCC have been planted throughout Woodward, Ellis, Blaine, and Custer Counties, and several other government agencies have plans to plant in the near future. Currently, the WSKCC Tree Farm has approximately 7,000 trees which will be available for spring planting.

Eddie Warrior Correctional Center (EWCC)

Taft Unit Donates to Taft Youth Program



On March 27, 2007, Emma Watts, then deputy warden of EWCC, presented a check for \$250 from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections CARE Program to Taft Mayor Patricia Springs and Kasandra McGee, Project Coordinator for the Empower Future Generations Program in Taft, Oklahoma.

The money was provided to assist in purchasing materials to build bleachers at the Taft softball field. Taft city officials purchased the materials and the bleachers were built using inmate labor. The bleachers were delivered to the field in May 2007, just in time for the summer softball season.

In appreciation for the donation, Mayor Springs and Ms. McGee presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Taft Unit.

Oklahoma State Reformatory (OSR)

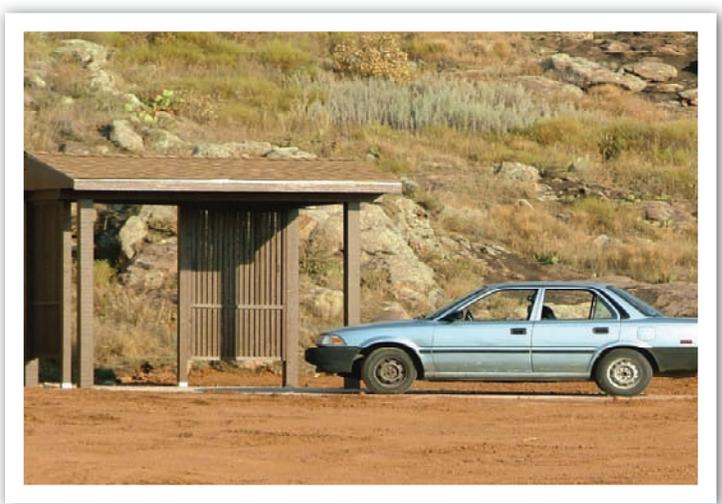
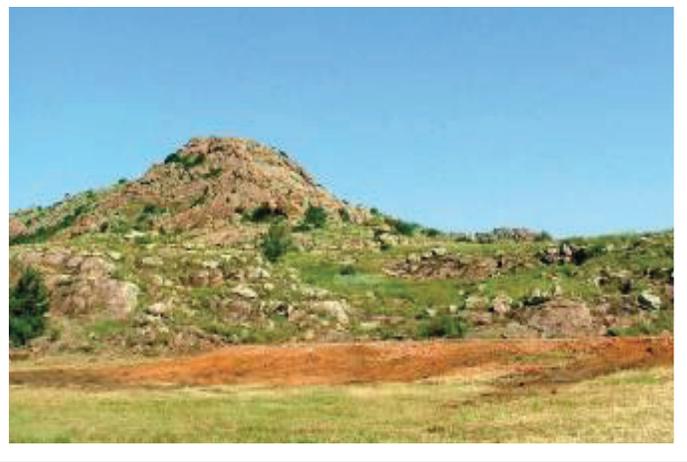
Thanks to Warden Franklin, his staff, and minimum security unit inmate volunteers, the citizens of Granite now have a custom kiosk at the southeast corner of the mountain. During the month of July, OSR staff and inmates assisted the Granite Lions Club in clearing the area, digging a drainage ditch to remove some water left from the recent rains, and constructing the kiosk.

The kiosk will house information about Granite, its businesses, and local attractions. There will soon be a small picnic area, hiking trail, and butterfly garden for visitors and weary travelers on Highway 6 to

stop and enjoy, too! Work will continue to get the trail marked and signs placed for the hiking trail. Plants for the butterfly garden will also be planted soon.

City officials and residents are very grateful to all who assisted in the completion of this project. "This community project will give youth and others a safer way to explore that area of the mountain and can increase the tourism traffic once complete with the butterfly garden," said Louis Inks, President of the Granite Lions Club.

If you're ever in the Granite area, and have some free time, stop by and check it out!!



"This community project will give youth and others a safer way to explore that area of the mountain and can increase the tourism traffic once complete with the butterfly garden."

*- Louis Inks
President, Granite Lions Club*

Oklahoma County Community Corrections/Residential Service

Hillside Community Corrections Center (HCCC)

Inmates from HCCC, during the months of September and October 2007, participated in the program workshops for Grandparents' Training at the respective annual state conferences of the Oklahoma Corrections Association and the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice. These workshops discussed the difficulties of the family members and the children of inmates that had to be overcome. The workshop evaluations all awarded outstanding scores for the workshops.

On April 20, 2007, inmates from HCCC also participated in the annual Oklahoma City Litter Blitz also known as OKC Beautiful program.

Inmates from HCCC also cleaned the overgrown brush on the west side of Martin Luther King Boulevard twice during 2007 and the Oklahoma City Solid Waste Department picked up the cut tree limbs and brushes.

Inmates from HCCC also assisted with the stuffing of bags presented to participants of the 2007 Oklahoma Memorial Marathon Run.

They also assisted with the clean up after the Martin Luther King Parade.

Kate Barnard Community Corrections Center (KBCCC)

Although KBCCC is primarily a work release center; the center has significantly been an active community partner and has participated in local community service activities.

First, KBCCC has adopted the I-44 service road from NW 36th Street around to Drexel Avenue. KBCCC residents clean this area daily by picking and sweeping debris from the service road and adjoining I-44; trimming grass and raking leaves as needed at least once weekly. KBCCC considers this area as an extension of our perimeter and our residents take pride in this sanitation effort.

On April 20, 2007, KBCCC residents took part in the annual Oklahoma City Litter Blitz. The Litter Blitz event chosen was Dulaney Park. Dulaney Park is a small and somewhat overlooked local park surrounded by several apartment complexes and the old Lynn Hickey Dodge dealership lot to the east. Sonic provided water and Dunkin Donuts provided donuts for all participants and all staff. KBCCC residents were able to pick up several bags of trash from Dulaney Park and surrounding area. Even more significant was the amount of broken glass that residents were able to remove from the playground area, glass that otherwise may have caused injury to playground customers.

Oklahoma City Community Corrections Center (OCCCC)

The male offenders of the OCCCC are actively working to dispel negative corrections stereotypes by creating positive community perceptions one community service project at a time.

In 2007 these offenders participated in over 1,000 community service hours. Those to be particularly proud of include the set up and tear down for Governor Brad Henry's 2nd Inaugural Ceremony, the set up and tear down for the Jena Six Rally at the State Capitol during the month of September 2007, Offender "Speak-Outs" for Santa Fe High School students, Edmond, Oklahoma twice in 2007, and the True Vine Ministries Youth Conference, Spencer, Oklahoma in October 2007. They also participated in the clean up, repair and painting of the smoke and fire damage to a classroom at the John Wesley Charter School/Creston Hill Elementary in March 2007 just to name a few.

We commend these offenders for their efforts. Every time these offenders successfully complete a community service project they prove what Corrections can do to help our communities and at the same time build a sense of self pride and accomplishment within the offender.

Lexington Assessment and Reception Center (LARC)

The LARC Employee Council is comprised of 12 members from different areas at LARC, and anyone can join. It is the council that sends cards/plants when an employee is sick or loses an immediate member of their family or if an employee gets hospitalized. They organize the holiday lunches, blood drives, silent auctions, etc. The council also organizes activities that provide opportunities for us to give back to the community.

On October 26, 2007, the LARC Employee Council along with members from the Affirmative Action Committee and other LARC staff donated their time and talents and spent a day working on a project house for Habitat for Humanity in Noble. The house was being built for a woman who works for the Noble School system and recently gained custody of her four grandchildren. The day was rewarding for everyone involved, knowing that their hard work would benefit those less fortunate.

On November 15, 2007,

the Employee Council sponsored another project, their bi-annual blood drive, with 30 employees signed up to give blood, this was just one more way for LARC employees to give back to the community.

One special project sponsored by LARC's Affirmative Action Committee is the Angel Tree. This is the second year for the LARC Angel Tree and once again it has been a big success. The Angel Tree is an opportunity for our employees to give of their time and money (\$20 limit) and bless a child by helping them to have a Merry Christmas!

Christmas is a very busy time at LARC. In addition to the Angel Tree our Correctional Activities Officers coordinate the Annual Christmas Toy Project. The project donates toys to those children who are less fortunate. This year we will be able to give away over three truck loads of gifts, including bikes, stocking stuffers, and food.

Northeast District Community Corrections (NEDCC)

Muskogee Community Corrections Center (MCCC) Participates in TRASH-OFF

Picking up litter alongside a highway may not sound like a good time to some people, but 10 inmates from Muskogee Community Corrections Center (MCC) feel differently.

On Friday, April 20, 2007, Babs Tittle and Tommy Mariano, staff members from the facility, took inmates out to clean up our local roads and highways as part of the 19th Annual Trash-Off. The Trash-Off is part of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's beautifications project. Awards are given for most bags filled and most unique item found.

MCCC staff and inmates picked up litter on two miles of U.S. Highway 69 in Muskogee, and then spent the rest of the day picking up trash on Gray Oaks Road, which leads into Sequoyah Bay State Park. They enjoyed lunch at the park afterwards, followed by more cleaning up on State Highway 16, north of Muskogee. Nearly 100 bags of trash were picked up. With temperatures reaching 90 degrees, everyone was ready to head back by mid afternoon.

Before heading back to the facility, many of the inmates were already asking when they could have another Trash-Off.

MCCC is a community level facility that provides opportunities for inmates nearing the end of their sentence to participate in either work release or public works programs.

The community level falls below minimum
(continued on page 23)

Bill Johnson Correctional Center (BJCC)

The BJCC warden's crew has traveled throughout Woods County the month of November assisting the cities of Alva and Waynoka, Northwestern Oklahoma State University and Little Sahara State Park. They assisted the City of Alva maintenance crews with the Christmas lights on the downtown square. The downtown square consists of one city block of local merchants, the city offices, the Woods County Courthouse, and the post office. The crew hung lights on the street poles prior to the Mayor's Christmas Party.

The crew also continued the eradication of the cedar trees in the City of Alva Cemetery. Some of the cedar will probably find its way to the BJCC saw mill. The crews mill the cedar, let it cure, then use the wood for various projects at BJCC and other nearby facilities. The cedar chest raised for the Oklahoma Correctional Officers Memorial Foundation was made with cedar from the eradication project.

The crew assisted the city of Waynoka with the relocation and removal of the city's dilapidated fire hydrants. They also assisted the nearby state park, Little Sahara, with the weekly process of cleaning the park after the "dunies" have been there all weekend.

Currently the crew is assisting Northwestern Oklahoma State University with the removal of the cinder block wall

in front of the newly erected "Ranger" statue, donated by a local business man. The project is a small portion of the ongoing beautification process of the university campus. They are also assisting the university's maintenance department with removal of excess and outdated classroom furniture.

The crew also collects cardboard from strategically located cardboard bins throughout the city of Alva. The cardboard is returned to the facility, baled, and recycled through a recycling company in Louisiana. The proceeds from the cardboard go to the Black & Gold Booster Club, a club supporting the athletic programs of the Alva Goldbugs.



Southwest District Community Corrections (SWDCC)

Offenders in SWDCC met the challenges of being considerate, caring and courteous to citizens in local communities. Their community service helped shape a positive image of the incarcerated and pro-

vided a glimpse into the impact cognitive restructuring can have.

The offenders at the Walters CWC participated in the Run Against Child Abuse and donated approximately \$380.00 to

the Department of Human Resources/Child Welfare Section. In June, seventeen (17) inmates demonstrated an outstanding job of providing safety to the community of Walters when the city was hit by a

devastating flood that did severe damage to the entire city. The continuous rain caused several fields and a park to flood over into the town. Many sand bags were required quickly to protect the buildings of
(continued on page 21)

Northwest District Community Corrections



Union City Community Corrections Center (UC-CCC) inmates provided community service to the following entities: Minco Senior Citizen Center, El Reno Blessing Baskets, Lords Harvest, Minco Schools, Union City Schools Baseball Park, Union City Lions Club, El Reno Schools, El Reno Beautification, Union City Baptist Church. Typical tasks completed are custodial and janitorial, minor maintenance, trash removal, painting, mowing and yard clean up, stripping and waxing floors, loading and unloading food and supplies for food pantries and/or seasonal public service entities.

For the schools, when students were not present, and as a supplement to their paid staff, inmates also performed work additional to the tasks listed above. Inmates also built a press-box for the baseball field at Union City Schools, moved desks and materials for classroom preparation and general clean up. They provided approximately 5,000 hours of community services to the schools.

For the Lords Harvest, Minco Senior Citizen Center and the El Reno Blessing Baskets, inmates were utilized to load and unload food, clothing and other items to be distributed to needy families. Minor maintenance and custodial services were also performed as needed. Over 2,300 hours were provided to

these entities.

Community service hours provided to various church organizations exceed 1,600 hours annually working along side church members.

Union City CCC also participated in the initial El Reno Beautification project cleaning streets, ditches and parks in preparation for annual events such as the Onion Burger Day, Small Town weekend.

Mangum Community Work Center community service benefited the American Legion Building to integrate with the nostalgic theme of the downtown square. Inmates used donated brick and native stone on the pavilion and the pre-fabricated metal building of the American Legion itself. A smoker/grill was built into the pavilion, the sidewalk and memorial bricks were also installed and bricked the building to match the existing architecture of Mangum Square. The attached photos give an idea of the finished project. This project was featured in the local newspaper.

The Northwest District also participated in the Run Against Child Abuse raising funds for the Christmas Connection, The Garfield County Advocacy Center and the Guardian Angel Project. Mangum CWC was able to provide the Guardian Angel Project for abused children with \$617.00 from this effort.

(SWDCC cont. from page 19)

several businesses located along the flood's path. The inmates supplied the necessary manpower to accomplish the job with great success. The inmates provided safety to several elderly individuals from evacuation of the nursing home, and allowing the city to operate without any major damage to costly equipment and property within buildings.

For the City of Duncan, a savings of thousands of dollars in labor costs were met by the professional skills of inmates completely remodeling the staff break and restroom at the Duncan Cemetery.

On the street of the Frederick CWC, a two car accident occurred in which four inmates pulled the driver of the severely impacted vehicle and moved him to safety until the arrival of an ambulance. The ready response by the inmates assisted by staff minimized a life threatening situation.

In the City of Lawton, on August 15, 2007, Hank Swearingen (Jim Taliaferro Community Mental Health Center) was transporting inmates back to the LCCC, when an inmate noticed a vehicle on the side of the road that was occupied by an elderly couple and not-

ed that their vehicle had a flat. When they stopped, all three inmates exited the vehicle and offered to assist the couple. One inmate took the jack, one started to remove the lug nuts and the other started to take out the spare tire while Mr. Swearingen directed traffic. The elderly man mentioned that he was 84 years old. These inmates were very concerned about the man's well-being and offered to let him sit in the vehicle with the air running if he needed to do so. When the inmates completed the tire change, they stowed everything away properly and were very respectful and polite. The couple was very appreciative for their assistance. Mr. Swearingen stated that the inmates showed nothing but grace, kindness and concern for their fellow human beings.

In September 2007, two Altus CWC inmates (female) spoke to the "Women and Crime" class at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. According to Karen Dudash, Assistant Professor, both inmates gave enthusiastic and informative presentations. The students were impressed by their openness and willingness to share personal infor-

mation about their crimes, their substance abuse, and how they, as women, have been treated by the criminal justice system. Most of the students had never had the opportunity to speak so candidly with inmates and were duly impressed by what these inmates had to say.

On September 14, 2007, Rick Harris, Public Works Authority, Lone Wolf, Oklahoma was in his work truck along with his workers (three Hobart CWC inmates) when an ambulance call page went out. Mr. Harris went to the identified house and upon arrival at the house he found a man lying halfway between the bathroom and hallway. He was unresponsive. Mr. Harris called for an ambulance. The ambulance responded. The ambulance driver was on crutches and she was unable to help Mr. Harris get the man up and on the stretcher and load him. Mr. Harris called his inmates into the house to help him get the man on the stretcher for transportation to the hospital. The man was going into Diabetic Shock. Mr. Harris stated if the inmates weren't there to assist him, the gentleman may have died or

had a stroke. Mr. Harris appreciates the inmates and all the help they provide to the community.

In a continuous effort to "give back" to society and help curtail the rate of crime among youth, Lawton CCC inmates participated in the Comanche County Juvenile Bureau's Project Aware by speaking at the courthouse to at-risk juveniles, parents and counselors about the consequences of negative behaviors and criminal activity.

These activities in the Southwest are exemplary illustrations of the positive outcome of "best practices" among an inmate population by professional staff dedicated to successful re-integration.

*Some cause
happiness
wherever they
go; Others
whenever
they go.*

*--Oscar
Wilde*

James Crabtree Correctional Center (JCCC)

The Bridge Project was designed to give offenders the opportunity to produce a product that will be given back to the disadvantaged in society. The Bridge Project at JCCC employs inmates that have limitations that would prevent them from working normal facility jobs. They produce wooden toys, jewelry boxes, knitted & crocheted throw blankets, stuffed animals and a variety of other items. The items are given to area nursing homes, shelters and to other agencies and charities that are in need. The Bridge Project's Mission Statements is: "To instill pride and self worth in offenders through jobs which in turn aid our community." The Bridge Proj-

ect currently employs 70 offenders.

On November 28, 2007 the JCCC Bridge Project donated items to the Cherokee EMS for their Santa's Workshop program. It allows children to come into the city hall and pick out gifts for their families. The same day we also made a donation of toys to the Cherokee DHS Angel Tree Program. The Bridge Project makes the majority of its donations during the holidays but is available year round for those in need.

The material used to create the Bridge Project items are through donations only. No state funds are used to buy materials. Anyone wanting to donate mate-



rials may do so by dropping it off at the facility or we can arrange for it to be picked up.

The Straight Talk Program is designed to give area at-risk youth an idea of what prison life is like. Our number one goal is reaching out to Oklahoma's youth. Whether it's working one-on-one with individual juveniles in crisis, educating an entire classroom or talking to parents, we want to make a difference.

Straight Talk is exactly what it is. We have volunteer inmates at this facility that speak candidly about their experiences in prison, their lives, their crimes, their victims and their rehabilitation. The program generally starts with an in-

troduction and welcome. Then a 30-45 minute "speak out" session with carefully screened inmates and a yard tour. We tailor fit the program speakers to fit the group or individual. We have had approximately 85 students attend the program throughout the past year.

The annual Northwest Law Enforcement Banquet was held November 15, 2007, at the multipurpose building at JCCC. There were approximately 45 members of area law enforcement agencies in attendance. A traditional dinner was prepared by the JCCC Food Service. Warden David Parker spoke to the group. Following a brief business meeting door prizes



donated by more than 40 area businesses were drawn for and given out to the attendees.

Eight inmates and crew supervisor Mark Stoabs, from JCCC in Helena, Oklahoma, volunteered to help the Cherokee community after a recent storm on the evening of August 25, 2007. Through combined efforts with the local prison and Alfalfa County officials, inmates assisted with the removal of tree branches and debris. The crew of eight inmates whose customary jobs are working in the

maintenance and equine departments at JCCC, were glad for the opportunity to help the community. David Parker, Warden of JCCC, pointed out there is a very limited number of inmates at JCCC that meet the criteria to be able to work in the community. Warden Parker goes on to add, "Protecting the public is a priority of the agency's mission. We know that we can't protect the public from natural disasters, but we can certainly do our part to help the recovery process."



(NEDCC conti. from page 18)

security, and the inmates housed there must remain out of trouble since they are given more freedom than inmates at other levels. Working in the community prepares the offenders for their release back into society.

Tittle has participated in the Trash-Off for several years and has worked for

the Oklahoma Department of Corrections for almost thirty years. "The inmates always have a good time," she said. "It gives them a chance to get out of the facility and help out in the community. We have a good time picking up trash. It's nice to get some sun and participate in a good cause."

DEMOGRAPHICS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2007

INMATE INFORMATION			PROBATION CLIENT INFORMATION		
TOTAL INMATES 25,120			TOTAL PROBATION CLIENTS 27,602		
Gender	Count	Percentage	Gender	Count	Percentage
Male	22,533	89.7	Male	20,744	75.2
Female	2,587	10.3	Female	6,858	24.9
Ethnicity	Count	Percentage	Ethnicity	Count	Percentage
Caucasian	13,630	54.3	Caucasian	17,349	62.0
African American	7,531	29.0	African American	5,231	18.9
Native American	2,202	8.8	Native American	2,046	7.4
Hispanic	1,631	6.5	Hispanic	1,989	7.2
Other	126	.05	Other	994	3.6
Crime Type	Count	Percentage	Crime Type	Count	Percentage
Violent	10,389	41.4	Violent	4,843	17.5
Non-Violent	14,731	58.6	Non-Violent	22,759	82.5
Average Age	37.7		Average Age	35.4	

LEAP DAY, FEBRUARY 29TH

There is roughly a 1 in 1,500 chance of being born on Leap Day. In the United States, 200,000 people have a February 29th birthday; worldwide, there are 4.1 million who have that distinction.

PAROLE CLIENT INFORMATION					
TOTAL PAROLE CLIENTS					3,631
Gender	Count	Percentage	Ethnicity	Count	Percentage
Male	3,021	83.2	Caucasian	2,148	59.2
Female	610	16.8	African American	1,009	27.8
Crime Type	Count	Percentage	Native American	163	4.5
Violent	596	16.4	Hispanic	270	7.4
Non-Violent	3,035	83.6	Other	41	1.1
Average Age	42.4				

Eyes that do not cry do not see.

--Swedish proverb



The First Annual
KIDS KARNIVAL
held at the OSP Rodeo, August 17-18, 2007, featured lots
of games, moonwalks, horseback riding
and great fun for little ones.





George Floyd, Administrator
Information Technology

Service - Teamwork

These two concepts provide the basis for everything the Information Technology (IT) Unit does. We provide services that support all aspects of the Department of Corrections (DOC) operation. We work as a team to ensure the services are always there and meet the needs of the agency.

The IT Unit has five major groups – Applications, Networks, Operations, Web Services, and Cabling/Infrastructure. All groups work together to provide the computing and networking environment supporting operations throughout the DOC.

The Applications group is responsible for the development and maintenance of centralized software systems. Examples are the Offender Management System, Fugitive Web Page, Human Resources, Training, Time and Leave System, Sex Offenders Registry, and Transportation Management. These systems are complex and require processing of data from multiple sources. In addition, because of the criticality of the systems, high availability is a mandate. The systems must be there when needed.

The Applications group is led by Pat Bracken and consists of personnel with

expertise in databases, programming languages, and process modeling. These personnel are responsible for a diverse environment ranging from a mainframe centralized system to a distributed system based on personal computers. Providing support to customers in this environment has required our personnel develop a broad knowledge of the systems and the business processes supported by the systems.

The Networks group deals with computer networks and newer voice systems. The network is the underlying transport for all computer operations throughout the DOC. The network is a complex system

consisting of hundreds of components working together to provide this vital function. Each of the components must be configured and monitored to ensure proper operation.

The Networks group is in the process of fielding a complete replacement of

the statewide DOC network. The aging network infrastructure will be replaced with current technology capable of supporting systems such as video conferencing and electronic health records. Another benefit will be increased security and protection of



Back row (L-R): Daniel Vu, Mike Drake, and Jerry Motte. Front row (L-R): George Floyd and Lori Smith.



Back row (L-R): Larry Li, Kent Love, Seyed Golshani, Hue Tu, Johnny Barnes, Dolly Cox, and Frank Bert. Front row (L-R): Flora Chen, Janet Leeper, Loretta Bradbury, and Meena Rastogi.

sensitive information transported by the networks.

Operations is responsible for areas such as the Help Desk, E-mail, PC support, and file servers. This group has the closest relationship with the customer. They come to your desk to troubleshoot and repair your computer, install new software, and solve computer related issues. The Operations group works closely with the field IT Coordinators supporting employees throughout the state.

The Help Desk is our entry point for support. We are implementing a new Help Desk application that will streamline support and eventually provide self service functionality. The self service will permit you to open a support case, track the progress of the case, and comment on the quality of the resolution of the case. We will, for the first

time, have metrics for measuring our performance in this area.

Web services develops and maintains the agency's web page. The web page is our portal to the public. We are always looking for ways to make the page more appealing and easy to use. The more the public uses the web page to get information about the DOC, the less time personnel spend responding to these requests for information. This frees DOC personnel to work on other tasks and improves the performance of the agency.

A little known fact is that the web services group is also responsible for ensuring the agency meets state standards for handicapped accessibility to our web based systems. This requirement applies to all systems; both external and internal.

Cabling/Infrastructure handles fiber optic and copper cabling inside and outside of our buildings. These cables support critical functions such as networking, telephone service, security cameras, and alarm systems. We are undergoing a major effort to document all of the cabling currently owned by the DOC. This documentation will cover all locations currently under DOC management and operation. In conjunction with the documentation effort, we will be developing plans to upgrade cabling to meet federal, state, and local standards. The upgrade will ensure all systems utilizing the cabling are provided reliable support for their operation.

Information security is emphasized throughout the IT Unit. Regardless of the IT group, information security is considered in all

phases of support and project management. Recent changes have been made to improve the security of DOC information and also to protect our employees. One example is the change from using employee social security account numbers in certain systems and reports. In several areas we have gone to the state employee ID. This helps protect the employee from identity theft and other threats.

There are also information security procedures and systems being implemented that are not as visible. We are using encryption to protect data during transmission, changing our password usage guidelines, and improving physical security. Anti-spam and antivirus applications receive daily updates to protect us from ever changing threats. We average over two mil-

(continued on page 31)



Back row (L-R): Sam Sangaran, Jean-Marc Hache, Stephen Frazier, and Donna Cooper. Front row (L-R): Alice Parker, Dino Irving, and Nikki Kennedy.

Law Enforcement Health & Wellness Fair

Hillside Community Corrections Center

November 2, 2007



Written by Karl Willett

Waffles, omelets, sausage and a massage! Wow! This combination turned out to be marvelous. Lots of Department of Corrections employees and local guests from other state agencies, and the local law enforcement agencies enjoyed this and much more in early November as we held an agency-wide Law Enforcement Health Fair and Breakfast.

The Metro Technology Center's Culinary School led by Mr. John Hall served up an excellent breakfast for all those

in attendance. The students and John could not have done a better job; they were professional, courteous and really brought a little French Café flare to the whole event. All proceeds from the breakfast went to the Employee Fund.

We were very fortunate to have health and wellness experts from many different entities present as they offered services for all those attending; agencies like the Oklahoma Blood Institute (blood pressure readings), Oklahoma Health Academy (gave massages), the Bone and

Joint Hospital (Bone Density Screenings), GlobalHealth (HMO), HealthChoice (Bone Density Screenings) and many more.

Health and Wellness has become an increasingly hot topic around the Department of Corrections. We are going to do our best to bring the philosophy of a healthier Oklahoma Department of Corrections to the forefront by having additional Health Fairs. The next event will take place May 2, 2008. Come out and join us and let's get fit together.





Leo Brown

Religious Services

Faith Behind Bars: Religious Rights & Rehabilitation

by *Leo Brown, Agency Chaplain*

Just as religion has been a part of our society since our country was founded over 200 years ago, religion has been a part of the correctional system since its very beginning. Today the impact of religion on corrections can be seen in all the branches of federal and state government from the White House, the United States House & Senate, the Supreme Court, to our State Legislature, Courts and Governors Office as well as in every correctional facility, work center, half-way house or probation & parole office. Some recent studies have found a relationship between the intensity of religious involvement and the number of in-prison misconducts. A 1996 study by Dr. Thomas P. O'Connor and Michael Perreyclear found an inverse relationship between high involvement in Chapel programs and infractions (misconducts). In this study, 11% of those with medium to high religious involvement had an infraction during the study period compared with 21% of those with little or no religious involvement – a 47% reduction.

This impact can be divided into two areas: The religious rights of offenders and the effect religion can have on the rehabilitation of the offender. The Religious Services Unit of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections addresses both of these issues.

Offender Religious Rights

The religious rights of those incarcerated is an issue that has been litigated and debated for years. Today we are still trying to answer the questions regarding what constitutes appropriate accommodations for offender religious practices. When congress passed the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) in 2000 they sought to expand the protection of religious organizations and of individuals who are institutionalized. The second part of the legislation has been used primarily with those incarcerated. Issues such as what defines inappropriate religious literature, wearing of religious headwear, religious work restrictions and kosher diets have all been ad-

dressed in the courts within recent years. As a result, correctional professionals must continue to reexamine our approach to the religious rights of offenders and what accommodations are appropriate in light of the latest litigation.

One of the most important elements in our approach to effectively addressing offender's religious rights is our effort to maintain consistent practices throughout the agency. If one facility allows something that other similar facilities deny, it can lead to needless litigation. Correctional chaplains, working with their local facility administrators and the Religious Services Unit, try to address the religious needs of offenders in a consistent manner.

Beyond the questions regarding the legal aspect of offender religious practices, however, we try to determine the legitimate, reasonable accommodations for an offender's religion. Given the vast array of religions practiced by those incarcerated, this can be challenging. We must have good, up to date working knowledge of all of these various religions and the legitimate practices associated with each one. Our chaplains and the Religious Services Unit work hard to stay current in this field. An important resource for our agency is the Oklahoma Corrections Advisory Council on Offender Religious Rights & Practices. This group is made up of religious leaders from various faiths. They provide important input for the agency as we try to address these issues.

Religion and Rehabilitation

The other important aspect of religion in corrections is the effect religion can have on rehabilitation. Opinion varies greatly on how much difference religion can make in changing offender behavior or reducing recidivism. Until recently, there has been very little research on this subject. However, a 2005 study in the Florida Department of Corrections found that offenders who attended at least ten religious activities per month were 26% less likely to be re-incarcerated after release.

In order to clarify the types of religious activities we have at our facilities, we distinguish between religious services and faith-based programs. Religious Services are those activities whose focus is religious worship or education. Worship services, religious ceremonies, prayer services or study groups fall into this category. Faith Based Programs are activities whose primary focus is addressing a criminogenic need such as substance abuse, marriage & family relationships, anti-social values or criminal thinking. Programs such as New Life Behavior, Homes of Honor, AA, NA & Celebrate Recovery are examples of faith-based programs.

When people used to think of religion behind bars, they would always have church services or bible studies in mind. However, faith-based programs have grown, both in number and quality, significantly over the last few years and have changed the look of religion in prisons. This may be due in part to the rise in visibility

of faith-based initiatives in general. When President Bush established the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives he wanted to assist Faith-Based and Community Organizations that provide important social services and programs. The administration's emphasis on faith-based services and programs spread to issues surrounding prisoner rehabilitation and reentry. In November 2007, over 1,250 people gathered for the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives National Summit on Prisoner Reentry. Numerous correctional administrators and government representatives attended but the vast majority of the attendees were from faith-based programs that work with offenders and ex-offenders. Much of the emphasis was on applying strategies that work in changing offender behavior and reducing recidivism.

The growth in faith-based programs can also be attributed to people of faith wanting to make a lasting change in the lives of offenders. As one volunteer with a faith-based program recently put it, "faith-based programs are really about discipleship – helping individuals live out their faith in a way that produces real change in their behavior, their life." Many of these programs use proven strategies, such as cognitive behavioral or 12 step approaches, in changing behavior with the added dimension of connecting this process to their personal faith.

In Oklahoma, the state legislature has passed measures to encourage and support faith-based and community

organizations involved in prisoner reentry. Recognizing the important work these organizations were doing and the need to create a way for these groups to work together, the agency helped form the Oklahoma Partnership for Successful Reentry in 2005. This group, which is primarily made up of leaders of faith-based and com-

munity organizations that provide programs, services and support for offenders in reentry, has made significant progress in networking their efforts and developing ways to increase their effectiveness.

The combined effect of our religious services and faith-based programs

is enormous. Many of our facilities have over 100 religious services or faith-based programs taking place each month. In addition to addressing the legitimate religious rights of offenders and providing a growing number of programs to promote behavioral changes, they offer pro-social positive activities for offenders.

A Life Transformed by Faith - *Jedidah (Jed) Chappell, #240743*

by *Leo Brown, Agency Chaplain*



When Jed Chappell landed in county jail he cried out to God – and his life changed. Jed had just been sentenced to a total of 47 years – 37 years in prison and 10 years on probation for a number of crimes including second degree burglary, possession of a firearm while committing a felony, possession of stolen property and pointing a firearm. He and some of his buddies were apprehended robbing a series of homes to support their drug habit. During the arrest he

pointed his gun at an officer and was shot four times as a result. Waking up in the hospital ICU he remembers asking God, “How did I get here?”

Jed’s father died from a long battle with cancer when he was 12, leaving him angry at the world – including God. He was bitter and more than willing to follow the path of his older brothers in rebellion, drugs and parties. By the time he was 18 he was a causal drug user and a dealer.

But there in the Oklahoma County Jail in 1996, something happened. With not only the weight of the sentence but also the knowledge that his girlfriend had just given birth to his first child, a boy, Jed said he that as he cried out to God he realized that he had to change and he asked God to

take whatever brain cells that were left and make him what he needed to be. He surrendered his life to Christ.

During the next seven years, as he was incarcerated at LARC, JCCC, DCF, JDCC and finally JBCC, his life was indeed changed. He said that two major influences helped him to grow in his faith. First he was determined

...As he cried out to God he realized that he had to change and he asked God to take whatever brain cells that were left... He surrendered his life to Christ.

to only associate with other offenders that were also sincere about their relationship with God. He credits

the relationships he was able to establish with these fellow believers as something that encouraged him in his new life. Jed also recognized the impact some of the religious services had in his growing faith that were changing his life. “There were some church services that I really pulled from, and

ministers that had a genuine love and concern... Hal Smallwood always blessed me, Rhema Church, Jesse Buford... Brother Bill (Martin) was also a big influence in my life."

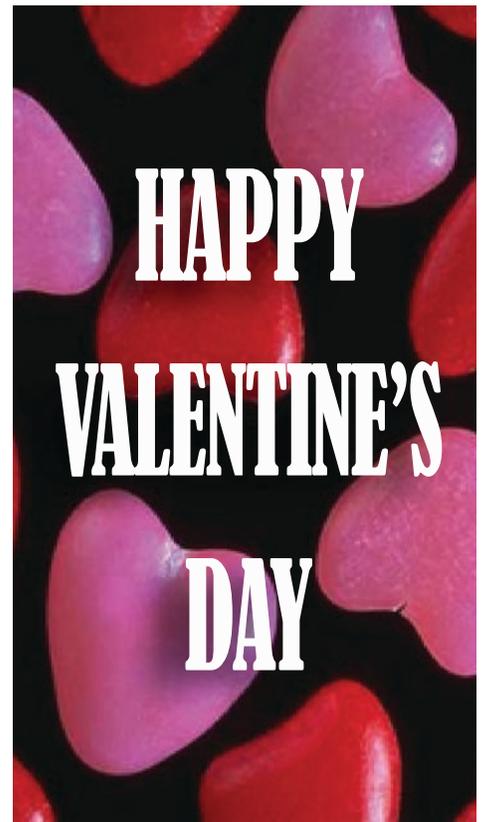
As far as programs that helped him along the way, he mentioned the impact Promise Keepers (a Christian men's organization) that helped him see how a godly man should live. He also credited a substance abuse residential program at Davis Correctional Facility that helped him see how to relate to other people and how that affects his ability to stay away from drugs. The program was not faith-based but at the time participants were allowed to freely express their faith within the program. As a result, Jed said this program became a faith-based program for him as he was able to connect his faith to a healing process.

While incarcerated, Jed learned to live out his faith on a daily bases reflected in the choices he made each moment. When he slipped, he became convicted about his actions.

After his release in May of 2003, his relationship with God became the key to his successful reentry. Jed said his biggest decision was to "get con-

nected into a church and not return to my old friends." Jed found a church (Victory Church in Oklahoma City) that not only accepted him but demonstrated their confidence in him by asking him to serve in various capacities. Although it was lonely at first and there were struggles finding odd jobs to make ends meet as he was going back to school to complete a degree he started while incarcerated, he began to build relationships that supported and encouraged him. It was at Victory that Jed says God brought him and his wife together. Jed and Julie are now enjoying the family life God has given them which includes their four sons, the youngest of which is their first child together. Jed got his degree in computer technologies which led to a job in video editing. Recently the church asked Jed to go on staff full time. Jed now serves as an associate pastor working with the numerous cell group activities in the church.

Jed says he has come to realize God created us with the need for relationships – to God and to others. "He created us to be needy" we just have to realize our need and find our needs met in Christ and his people.



*If you lose money,
you lose much.
If you lose friends,
you lose more.
If you lose faith,
you lose all.*

--Eleanor Roosevelt

(Information Technology cont. from page 26)

lion spam messages intercepted each month.

The IT Unit is emphasizing standardization of hardware and software throughout the DOC. We work closely with the users when determining what is

placed on the DOC standard hardware and software list. The list is updated frequently as new items are developed and other items reach their end of life. This standardization effort provides benefits in

the areas of support, reliability, security, and operation.

As you can see, the IT Unit provides a wide range of services to all DOC employees and the public. We cannot do this without

input from our customers. We are SERVICE oriented and believe that TEAMWORK with all of DOC leads to providing quality and reliable information processing.

Faith and Character Community Program

Offers New Tools for Addressing Offender Behavior Change

By *Tim Wilkins & Ilinda Jackson*

Faith and Character Community Program Coordinators

Oklahoma State Reformatory & Mabel Bassett Correctional Center



Abraham Maslow said, “When the only tool you have is a hammer, every problem begins to resemble a nail.” Bearing this in mind, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections initiated the search for additional tools to address the need for positive, pro-social cognitive-behavioral changes in long-term offenders at medium security facilities. One of those new tools is the Faith and Character Community program.

Overview of the Faith and Character Community Program

The development of the Faith and Character Community program started in February 2006 after Director Justin Jones asked that

this type of program be implemented in the department. Two pilot sites were chosen for the program: Mabel Bassett Correctional Center in McCloud and Oklahoma State Reformatory in Granite. This program was to be designed with two primary goals in mind. The first goal was to provide effective faith based and cognitive behavioral change interventions to change offender behavior and thinking. The second goal was to design a program that would be constitutionally sound and address the needs and challenges of church-state separation.

Members of the department surveyed the field

for programs of this type and located several that seemed to fit the purposes. The NIC surveyed all 50 states and the Federal Bureau of Prisons in 2005 and found that that 21 agencies (41%) were either operating or developing at least one residential faith-based program. Many of these programs were being operated by private, usually faith-based, organizations. In addition to the privately-operated faith-based residential programs, there were 10 states and the Federal Bureau of Prisons that were operating similar programs through the agencies. General information was gathered on all of the programs and several were closely evaluated.

Many of the other faith-based residential programs have shown promising results. Early outcome measures and more recent evaluations that the Urban Institute has completed on Florida’s Faith Based Dorms and their Faith & Character Institutions demonstrate

a reduction in recidivism rates, improved offender behavior while incarcerated resulting in fewer misconduct reports, improved/restored family relationships for the offender which improves the outside support for the offender while he/she is incarcerated and an overall improvement in the facility environment for both the staff and the offenders.

Using all of the input and insight gained from our evaluation of these other programs, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections developed the Faith and Character Community Program. The program targets medium security male and female long-term offenders. Targeting this particular population, it is believed, will assist in changing the culture of the facilities in which it is implemented and provide a safer and more civil living environment for the offender and a safer working environment for the staff at the facility.



Linda Jackson

The Faith and Character Community program in Oklahoma was also designed with potential Constitutional challenges in mind especially following the lawsuit brought in the state of Iowa against the Inner Change Freedom Initiative. The courts ruled that the program, which was operated by the Christian organization Prison Fellowship, was unconstitutional because they were using state funds to operate a program that promotes a single faith with no secular alternative. Based on the ruling from Iowa, which is currently under appeal, the Oklahoma Faith and Character Community program was designed with some basic guidelines in mind. The primary guideline was that the Oklahoma program cannot use state funds to support a particular reli-

gious indoctrination. It was decided that the program would focus on spirituality without reference to a particular religion. Related to this guideline was the decision to remain neutral in relation to religion or non-religion among the participants. The second guideline was to ensure that offenders were not coerced into the program. In order to participate in the Faith and Character Community program, offenders voluntarily apply and are selected to be in the program through an interview process. It was further decided that the offender would be able to withdraw from the program at any time voluntarily without penalty. The program itself is managed and operated by the Oklahoma Department of Corrections employees rather than an outside organization.

The Faith and Character Community program has two separate tracks, one is a faith track and the other is a character (secular) track. It was felt that by offering the two tracks it would avoid the appearance of coercing an offender into a faith-based program and would provide continuity in the stance of neutrality

toward religion. It has the further benefit of opening the program to more offenders to participate. Offenders choose the track in which they wish to participate. Both programs offer similar types of classes and curriculum and both offer the same core curriculum: Character First from the Character Training Institute in Oklahoma City. This curriculum is designed to teach 49 basic positive character qualities in a concise and accessible format. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections has partnered with the Character Training institute to develop a prison based curriculum to better meet the needs of offenders who may have limited reading and comprehension skills.

The other basic curriculum of the program is a series of interactive journals from the Change Company. Life Connections, the faith based journaling curricula, is designed to address character and moral development with a focus on spirituality as one component of character formation. It is written to meet the needs of any faith perspective. Life Connections is used by the Federal BOP as part of their faith-based pro-

gram. Changing Offender Behavior is the character track equivalent to the Life Connections journals. The Change Company developed Changing Offender Behavior with the help of Dr. Edward Latessa, the head of the Criminal Justice Division at the University of Cincinnati. It differs from the Life Connections in that it does not address spirituality. It offers a purely cognitive behavioral approach to moral and character development.

Faith and Character Community Program Mabel Bassett CC

Housed in the Beverly Young Faith and Character Housing unit, the Faith and Character Community program was started with 200 offenders--100 in the Faith track and 100 in the Character track of the program. The Faith and Character Community Program



Tim Wilkins

of Mabel Bassett has provided the participant a very rich and rare opportunity for pro social change. The primary focus of the Faith and Character program is medium security inmates providing an opportunity for long term offenders to participate in programming that will impact the remainder of their incarceration in a positive way as well as prepare the offender for a safe and successful re-entry from prison to communal.

The Faith and Character Community program requires a minimum of four to six hours of programming each day. The program begins daily for the character participants at 7:00 am and at 8:00am for the faith participants. During the morning facilitation staff provides the core curriculum. This is important as each morning is started with "Character" what is and how to identify areas of success and those areas that need improvement. Providing the offender with solutions through role plays and interactive journaling.

The afternoon groups are comprised of ancillary classes, and groups. Affording the offender many opportunities to grasp the true

nature of pro social change. Along with the afternoon groups several opportunities are given throughout the week for the offender to demonstrate what she has gained through an organized game or event.

The Faith and Character Community Program of Mabel Bassett is gender driven, developing innovative ways to bring a measure of success to each participant. We are dedicated to providing the "What Works" applications to address the current issues relating to women and cognitive behavioral change.

In addition to the base material used, other supporting tools are employed using the contributions of volunteers and staff to help in facilitation. The program is able to provide a well rounded curriculum for women. "Cage Your Rage for Women" is facilitated by Mrs. Shirley Denson a DOC volunteer. "Shelter From The Storm," a workbook that addresses trauma; facilitated by volunteer Gloria Nunn. Also provided is "Within My Reach" a dynamic workbook approach that addresses relational issues and communication skills; facilitated by John Carothers,

Program Provider. "Conquering Co-Dependency has been useful in helping to identify the connection to abusive relationships and the need to stay in an unhealthy environment; facilitated by volunteer Marsha Travis.

As reinforcements to learning and integrating these changes, the program has implemented programmatic recreational learning strategies that enhance memorization. Using character drills, participants have demonstrated high retention of general definitions and materials. Other useful strategies include song writing and singing liturgical dancing, bringing about a sense of community and change.

The Faith and Character Program of Mabel Bassett is dedicated to addressing parenting and motherhood since most offenders are either parents or grandparents. As a result of the mother's incarceration the offenders children are often at risk of becoming offenders themselves. This cycle of generational incarceration is alarming. It is important to provide the best available services to provide the best solutions. Because of the community aspect

of the program we have been successful in providing peer support groups as participants are placed in small support groups made up of their peers. This allows for a greater opportunity to work through daily problems and complete homework assignments.

The Faith and Character Program of Mabel Bassett has benefited tremendously by the community of peers. It is a powerful dynamic that affords the participants a safe place to work on the new skills learned. This within itself allows for true change as the participant is not waiting to go into society to see if they can live a different life; each day the participant is held accountable to change.

**Faith and Character
Community Program
Oklahoma State
Reformatory**

Oklahoma State Reformatory's Faith and Character Community program currently has 117 participants. The participants make up a microcosm of the facility's population. There is great diversity in age, race, and religion. Inmates are housed in the renovated former segregated housing unit. Currently, a building

(continued on page 36)

Faith and Character Community Program Open House

Mabel Bassett Correctional Center

May 28, 2007



Millicent Newton-Embry, Warden, Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, and Bobby Boone, Deputy Director, Institutions.



Nancy Brock, Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, and Leo Brown, Agency Chaplain, Religious and Volunteer Services.



Mrs. Greenwood, Alice Ivery, Charles Ivery, Executive Director, Exodus Foundation, Inc., Rev. James Greenwood, State President, Nat. Assoc. of Black Vets, and Millicent Newton-Embry, Warden, Mabel Bassett Correctional Center.

(continued from page 34)
is being renovated to provide permanent classroom space for the program. Right now, the program is meeting in temporary meeting space. Next year, the program is anticipated to expand to encompass two housing units to bring the total number of participants to almost 300.

In addition to the Character First curriculum and interactive journaling, the participants of the Faith and Character Community program at Oklahoma State Reformatory receive several supplementary studies to reinforce their learning. Some of these courses include a Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP), Houses of Healing that allows the offenders to explore their past in a small group setting to better understand why they are in prison and take steps to make better decisions in the future, and Zig

Ziglar's "I Can" program which teaches personal goal setting and maintaining a strong work ethic in addition to reinforcing positive character qualities and personal growth from the other courses.

A program that is unique to the Oklahoma State Reformatory Faith and Character Community program is the Right Step offender facilitator training. In this program, offenders learn to become facilitators for small group studies and Thinking for a Change. They learn small group dynamics and are given the opportunity to learn group facilitation skills through a hands-on approach. From this training, they can assist staff in presenting programs and curriculum to the participants and, upon completion of the Faith and Character Community program, they can assist unit staff in present-

ing Thinking or a Change classes and other learning experiences. Recently, this program was offered and 70 Faith and Character Community program participants completed it.

Marvin Vaughn, Deputy Warden of Administration at Oklahoma State Reformatory wrote the following about the Faith and Character Community program: "Even though the Faith and Character program here at OSR has been in place only a short time, I am encouraged by what I hear from inmates as I visit with them on the yard. Inmates seem to be progressing well and more importantly, applying what they have learned in their relationships with both staff and inmates alike. Probably the most encouraging aspect for me has been staff comments concerning this program. Many were "naysayers" or skeptical of the program's

effectiveness at its conception. The same staff members are now reporting that they are beginning to see many positive results from inmates enrolled in this program."

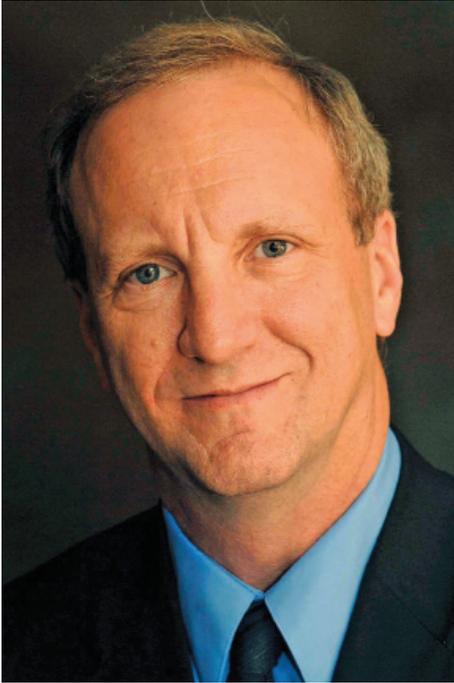
Conclusion

Through the implementation of the Faith and Character Community program, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections has begun to expand its toolbox of ways to address the need for positive, pro-social cognitive-behavioral changes in long-term offenders at medium security facilities. By continuing to develop this program and implementing it in other medium security facilities throughout the state, the department has the potential to change not only the lives of the individuals in the program but the culture of the correctional system itself. It is beginning to happen now, one offender at a time.

CELEBRATE Black History Month

Evidence-Based Practice

By Dr. Mike Connelly, *Evaluation & Analysis*



*Mike Connelly, Administrator
Evaluation and Analysis*

In my previous two columns on evidence-based practice and the value of using data and research to support DOC activities, I've talked about ways that we can develop the information and statistics that you can use to help to defend yourself against unwarranted criticisms and to improve your operations. What I'd like to do in this column is to give you some examples of ways your DOC colleagues have already been moving in that direction. I'll make the examples hypotheticals, but they will be based on actual work that we have done in the last year in the Evaluation & Analysis Unit.

You already know that someone else in the department, usually from upper management, may need data about what you've been doing and maybe some analysis of trends, suc-

cesses and failures, or just simple counts. Also, much of what you do ends up of interest to a variety of external individuals and organizations, such as the legislature or governor's office, auditors, reporters, or other states and/or the federal government. You probably already have a system of some sort for reporting those things. Maybe you keep your numbers in electronic format of some kind. Maybe you have data reports faxed in and then calculated by hand by lucky person. Maybe you keep marks on a piece of paper. Maybe Evaluation & Analysis can help. (That was probably my staff you heard screaming as I said that.)

I know that access to helpful software and even to computers can still be a problem at times for many of us. I know that sometimes the available software and hardware can be intimidating and that it can just seem easier to keep doing things the way they've always been done. However, those ways may not be allowing you to max out the potential you have to show what you've been accomplishing, and they may be slowing you down and draining your energy and productivity.

We have sat down with several different units and individuals now and helped them to think through and develop basic electronic data collection systems that will allow better uniformity in reporting and save time and effort. These systems can

be maintained by one person or can be coordinated by multiple folks doing the same thing who need to combine their numbers and reports into single data sets and documents. We've worked with some who are implementing new programs and need to get things set up in advance to eliminate additional and probably more confusing work after the fact. And, for those of you who have been keeping your own data independently and then struggling to link it to (or "working around") OMS to answer more involved questions, we've worked with your colleagues in similar situations to develop ideas about how to get the most from those data and to use what's in OMS to present a bigger and better picture of what's getting done.

We have worked with some units to get the data and information in the first place. Maybe you need to get information about or find out perceptions of participants, clients, offenders (released or otherwise), or others concerning what you do. Have you thought of doing surveys? Some of your colleagues have, and now they are getting the findings. Want more detailed information than just the numbers? We can help you set up focus groups and have detailed discussions for analysis.

Or maybe you need to demonstrate the effectiveness of what your programs are accomplishing. "Evaluation" isn't in our unit's name for looks. We've

already worked with several people in DOC to gather data from their hard copies, electronic files, or surveys we performed to get the necessary info. They picked the areas they needed to know more about, and we helped them to design a process to determine what could be known. Unfortunately, in some cases, because of the way data were and weren't gathered or kept, the best answer is that nothing definitive can be known at this time, but now we know where the problems are and can improve the data collection and reporting for the future.

Of course, one big concern for all of us at DOC is the recidivism of the offenders who have been under our supervision. When offenders leave our supervision, do they come back? For what? Why? This is clearly a major public issue, but a department building itself around the belief that *successful reentry is all our business* has to be able to show in understandable ways all the factors associated with success and failure in that cause. One result of our state's higher-than-average incarceration of low-risk offenders is that our overall recidivism rate is usually quite low compared to national numbers. Offenders who weren't as likely to re-offend anyway, regardless of punishment, make us look good statistically when they are released and don't re-offend. So an irony of efforts to focus resources on medium and high risk offenders and to reduce incarceration of lower risk ones may be to increase our numbers of recidivating offenders. Data and analysis will be our only ways of mak-

ing that statistic understandable and acceptable to the public and policy-makers.

One way we are developing in our unit to address these questions about recidivism is to develop sophisticated statistical models that allow us to factor in many variables about an offender and his/her supervision and treatment within DOC to determine which factors are most associated with success or failure. We've already looked at some programs and plan more extensive analysis in the near future. With these factors identified, we can greatly improve our efforts to emphasize the helpful ones and to minimize the harmful ones.

I hope this column has given you some ideas about what is possible regarding data and analysis now in DOC and what you might be able to do to demonstrate and improve the effectiveness of your own operations. We've been pleased to try to help those who have asked us for assistance to this point and have learned a great deal ourselves about how the department works and how hard DOC staff are working to make the department and those they supervise better. If you have ideas or questions about what you think you might like to do, please get in touch with us. We can send you to the real folks behind the "hypotheticals" above and we can link you to national resources that might help even more. The Evaluation & Analysis Unit was created to provide statistical and research support to better the operations of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Our staff is small but

we're hardy. (Well, most of us.) We'll be glad to talk with you and see what we can do together.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Events Calendar

American Probation and Parole Association (APPA)

Winter: February 10-13, 2008

Phoenix, Arizona

Summer: August 3-6, 2008

Las Vegas, Nevada

National Organization of Hispanics in Criminal Justice (NOHCJ)

April 28- May 1, 2008

Orlando, Florida

National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ)

July 20-24, 2008

Orlando, Florida

American Correctional Association (ACA)

August 9-14, 2008

New Orleans, Louisiana

OSP Rodeo

August 15 -16, 2008

McAlester, Oklahoma

Oklahoma NABCJ Chapter

September 17-19, 2008

Doubletree Hotel

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Oklahoma Correctional Association (OCA)

October 8-10, 2008

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Employee Recognition Ceremony

November 6-7, 2008

Reed Center

Midwest City, Oklahoma

Rose Gwin	Medical/OSP	Dan Johnson	MACC	11 Years	Doretha Clark	DCCC	
Charles Dickerson	JHCC	Tom James	Finance & Acctg	Stephen Warren	Programs Unit	Neill Balthis	NOCC
Jeffrey Anthony	CDCC	Deborah Hudson	MCCC	Maxine Walters	Finance & Acctg		
Sharon Andrews	Personnel Unit	Buddy Hendricks	OSP	Randi Shipp	MCCC	10 Years	
12 Years		Alicia Guerrero	OSR	Rochelle Province	BJCC	George Stiltner	SEDCC
Von Wilcots	JLCC	Travis Gray	BJCC	Wilfred Perry	OCI Mfg/JHCC	Everett Shaw	OSR
George Saxon	OSR	Thomas Gleese	JBCC	Paula Menifee	Sent Admin	Rick Ratliff	Med/JHCC
Kimberlee Rader	Medical/BJCC	Anthony Fogle	UCCCC	Amanda McDonald	NWDCC	Benjamin Powell	Med Admin/JHCC
Dale Morgan	MACC	Twyla Elliott	BJCC	Ernest Mayo	MACC	Jean Lester	Mental Health/HMCC
Ronda Montalvo	Medical/BJCC	Roy Butler	OSR	Mary Keltch	Finance & Acctg	James Lee, Sr.	OSR
William Monday	WKCC	Douglas Brown	WKCC	Phyllis Hill	EWCC	Edward Kearns	Comm Sent/Off Info Svc
Wendell Miles	Medical Admin/JHCC	Gary Bell	OCI Mfg/LARC	Bobby Grayson	Operational Svcs	Carol Dunnam	JCCC
Mark McDowell	OSR	Ryan Atchison	NOCC	Kendrick Goodyear	EWCC	Kelli Crane	NOCC
David Lehman	OCI MFG/LARC	Delbert Appleton	OSR	Ida Doyle	Education/DCCC	Jimmy Adams	Training
				Tonia Dickerson	JBCC		

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

40 Years		Bill Myers	JCCC	Leslie Fitzhugh	CDCC	Connie Hewitt	BJCC
Robert Greear	Admin Svc	Robert Jarrett	Education/MBCC	Terry Edminsten	JLCC	Gary Hart	NWDCC
36 Years		Kathleen Horgan	Facility Class	Frank Buchanan	MACC	Buren Hammond Jr.	OSP
Joseph Moss	NOCC	Glenroy Hines	HCCC	Ladonna Anderson	KBCCC	Joseph Goodballet	NWDCC
Andrew Mooring	JLCC	Katherine Fish	Facility Class	Mark Aldridge	OSP	Joseph Glasco Jr.	Earl Davis CWC
Lemuel Modeland	Education	Derrel Epperly	JEHCC	19 Years		Mary Gann	Education/LARC
Marta Ahhaitty	CDCC	Margaret Dillard	LARC	Michael Wellman	WSKCC	Reta Cottrell	LARC
32 Years		Elaine Alexander-Harris	SEDCC	Connell Sims	LARC	Marla Barton	Training
Lewis Williams	Mental Health/JHCC	23 Years		Barry Sexton	WSKCC	16 Years	
31 Years		Gene Yates	JBCC	Dennis Price	JCCC	Paul Scott	Bldg Maintenance
Caldonia Gilbert	JLCC	Cindy Wilkett	Div of Comm Corr	Lester Neill	WSKCC	Jerry Perry	JBCC
Alfred Deaton	HMCC	Terri Vogt	Empl Trng & Dev Ctr	Perry Mullins	JHCC	Michael Parnell	DCCC
30 Years		Brandy Toth	NEGCC	David Mitchell	Mangum CWC	Danny Franklin	OSP
Marilyn Teetshorn	JBCC	Marvin Sockey	JBCC	Teresa Littlecook	Medical/DCCC	Lillian Brown	Medical/OSP
Barbara Cubitt	Sent Admin	Becky Smith	Internal Affairs	Deanna Lemmons	Medical/DCCC	Benjamin Brown Jr.	OSP
29 Years		David Morris Jr.	OSR	Mike Kitchens	WSKCC	Mark Battershell	SEDCC
Terry Williamson	CDCC	Troy Monks	OSP	Jack Hickman	WSKCC	15 Years	
Rick Lowrance	HMCC	William Masters	OSP	David Hendrix	OSP	Lorne Smiley	MBCC
Danny Faucett	OKCCCC	David Layton	Training	Kenneth Hamilton	WSKCC	Tammie Sanders	MACC
Robert Dibble Jr.	Employ Trng & Dev Ctr	Serretha Gruszka	LARC	Leslie Guttery	OCI/DCCC	Jimmie Pharaoh Sr.	JLCC
James Dellinger	HMCC	Sharon Clark	Medical/JEHCC	Joe Eike	WSKCC	Nathan Pahukoa	NEOCC
28 Years		Edward Bullard	JLCC	J. B. Draper	JHCC	Michael Jones	BJCC
Richard Scharnhorst	Education/DCCC	Kathryn Boyd	Mental Health/LARC	Sandra Dorris	JHCC	Tommy Dodson	Internal Affairs
27 Years		22 Years		Carl Crites	ECCC	Vickie Bowerman	HCCC
Martha Smith	JCCC	Terry Tuggle	JDCC	Joe Chance	WSKCC	14 Years	
Michael Sizemore	OSP	Abe Presa	ECCC	Mike Cagle	JHCC	Thomas Sharp	MACC
Dan Reynolds	Div of Comm Corr	Donna Miller	Admin Services	Anetta Bullock	Director's Of ce	Dennis Rose	HMCC
Robert Melton	NWDCC	21 Years		Paul Bailey	TCDC	James Pothoff	MACC
Milton Gilliam	Div of Comm Corr	Linda Watson	JCCC	Shannon Atchison	NEOCC	Randy Lynch	CDCC
Betty Cannon	DCCC	Neamyra Riddle	OSP	18 Years		Kenneth Kitts	Internal Affairs
26 Years		Cynthia Newton	Medical/Turley HWH	Rick Vass	Transp Unit/JLCC	Everett Hutcheson	Trans Unit/WSKCC
Ernest Hardin	JHCC	Jo Holston	NWDCC	Alton Smith Jr.	SEDCC	Anthony Clayton	MBCC
25 Years		Janice Brower	Education/JEHCC	Tamara Sanders	NWDCC	William Barnard	Trans Unit/BJCC
Mary Wooden	DCCC	20 Years		Jackie Keeton	WSKCC	Diana Alberda	MACC
Don Perteet	JBCC	Bill Ward	Education/OSR	Donald Jay	JCCC	13 Years	
James Kennedy	Agri-Svc	Lacy Wade Jr.	ECCC	Larry Butcher	OCI/DCCC	Jerry Williams	JCCC
Anita Bailey	Comm Sent/Off Info Svcs	Clarene Robertson	CDCC	17 Years		Karen Vance	JLCC
24 Years		Russell Pugh	HMCC	Raymond Sparks Jr.	JDCC	Billy Thomas	Mental Health/MBCC
Robert Woody	KBCCC	Billy Moore	OKLA. Corr Trng Academy	Jimmy Southard	HMCC	Mark Stoabs	JCCC
Rick Tucker	LARC	John Jones	DCCC	Ronald Smith	Idabel CWC	Scott Spears	SEDCC
Connie Spangler	Medical Admin/JEHCC	Canita Howerton	NWDCC	Jimmie Shaver	Hollis CWC	Ouddie Span	HMCC
		Wesley Hinkston	KBCCC	Robert Sass	Training	William Robertson	OSP
		Guylla Hill	MACC	Laura Renfro	Comm Sent/Off Info Svcs	Christopher Redeagle	DCCC
		Billy Hartley	Trans Unit/LARC	Michael Logan	Lawton CCC	Dennis Morrow	OSP
		Kelly Hardman	Agri-Services/HMCC	Sandra Kralovetz	SEDCC	Linda Lucio	Medical Admin/MBCC
		Brian Gantz	JHCC	Irene Kerr	NWDCC	Mark Kottka	NWDCC
				Richard Johnston Jr.	JLCC		

Samuel Jones	BJCC
Robert Jones	JHCC
William Irvin	JCCC
Cheryl Hindenburg	HMCC
Curtis Grundy	Mental Health/NOCC
Daniel Gomez	DCCC
Gina Dry	JDCC
Ron Cummings	Mental Health/LARC
Lawrence Corr	BJCC

12 Years

Michael Wolf	Training
Thomas Tritz	SWDCC
George Mitchell	NEOCC
Jesse Luellen	MACC
John Lipsey II	NEDCC
Mary Langley	CDCC
Bruce Kietel	BJCC
Alta Ingle	JHCC
Wilma Gray	LARC
Kenneth Fink	BJCC
Sandra Dunn	SEDCC
Timothy Damron	KBCCC
Gary Cooley	Mental Health/MBCC
Frankie Callahan	JHCC
Kendall Ballew	Internal Affairs
April Anderson	Medical Admin/JDCC

11 Years

Garvis Wooten Jr.	JDCC
George Williams	JHCC
Gary Thompson Jr.	JHCC
Robert Swaner	Elk City CWC
Nina Silva	OSR
Eric Scheuermann	DCCC
Christopher Savage	Facility Class
Mary Rush	MACC
Juanita Raney	MACC
Phillip Mlynek	JLCC
Dave Ketchersid	OSR
Earl Harvey	BJCC
Darrell Coston	JLCC
Brad Brodgon	SEDCC
Carl Bear	OSR

10 Years

Michael Workman	OSP
Anthony Wood	Frederick CWC
Larry Sowle	OCI/DCCC
Patty Simpson	OSR
Keith Sherwood	OSP
Glenn Sears	NEOCC
Jimmy Reynolds	OSP
Patricia Raspberry	LARC
Jerry Price	OSP
Gloria Pontius	Medical/MBCC
Jack Peddy Jr.	EWCC
Janet McGinnis	NWDCC
Douglas McCallister	Headlton CWC
Rita Johnson	Lawton CWC
Logan Johnson	JBCC
Terry Hopper	Medical/UCCC
Todd Holsten	OSP
Judy Harris	Finance & Acctg
Marvin Gater	JBCC
Michael Galvan	OSR
Marietta Doty	JCCC
Shirley Curry	OSCC/RS
Brenda Clifton	HMCC
Nancy Clampet	SEDCC
Jim Brooks	OSR

Health & Wellness

FEBRUARY is *American Heart Month*

Cardiovascular disease is the single greatest cause of death in the United States each year. According to Injury Facts, it was responsible for more than 2,406 deaths per day – that’s nearly one cardiac death every two minutes!

February is designated as American Heart Month. You can make a difference. Learn how to reduce these deaths through prevention, education and emergency response training.

PREVENTION

Good News! Heart attacks are almost entirely preventable. 75% of American adults already show traces of dangerous fat in their arteries that contribute to cardiac arrest. To protect yourself from heart disease follow these guidelines:

- Maintain a healthy and balanced diet.
- Exercise regularly for at least 20 minutes, 3 times a week.
- Avoid preventable risk factors such as stress, smoking and high blood pressure.

EDUCATION

Learn the warning signs – early detection saves lives. Half of all heart attack victims wait more than two hours before seeking help. If symptoms are recognized and treated sooner, fatality rates drop drastically. If you or someone you know has chest discomfort for more than two minutes, call emergency medical immediately. The following symptoms are warning signs of cardiac arrest:

- Pain or discomfort centered in the chest area, which may radiate to left arm, neck, back or jaw
- Sweating and shortness of breath
- Nausea or vomiting
- Dizziness or fainting
- Palpitations or rapid heartbeats

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING

Every second counts! Immediate response is critical. Ninety-five percent of people who suffer sudden cardiac arrest die before reaching the hospital. Knowing what to do before help arrives can mean the difference between life and death. Administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) within 4 minutes greatly reduces the risk of brain damage. Furthermore, automated external defibrillation (AED) within 5 minutes increases chances of survival by 40%. AEDs are accurate, easy to operate and now commonly found in our work places and communities. Whether you take a First Aid, CPR, and/or AED course, your time will be well spent. You will leave these courses with the knowledge and skills to make a significant difference in someone’s life.

Retirements

JANUARY

Mac Branscum, Education
Edward Bullard, John Lilley CC
Earl Epps, Training
Kenneth Kitts, Internal Affairs
Wilburn Lewis, Ardmore CWC
John Maguire, Joseph Harp CC
George Mitchell, Northeast Oklahoma CC
Dennis Nichols, James Crabtree CC
Gene Yates, Jackie Brannon CC

FEBRUARY

Leroy Bond, OCI Manufacturing
Thomas Butler, Oklahoma State Penitentiary
James Dehart, Education
Richard Greene, Sentence Administration
Cynthia Hendrix, Howard McLeod CC
Laura Lambert, John Lilley CC
Jimmie Pharaoh, Sr., John Lilley CC
John Pruitt, Oklahoma State Penitentiary
Cecil Thomason, Oklahoma State Reformatory
Donald Williams, John Lilley CC
Anthony Wood, Frederick CWC

MARCH

Danny Faucett, Oklahoma City CCC
Lamen King, Oklahoma State Penitentiary

APRIL

Stephanie Coldiron, Central District CC
Richard Johnston, Jr., John Lilley CC
Daniel Orr, Southeast District CC
Wyatt Phillips, Oklahoma State Penitentiary

NEXT ISSUE

Female Executives in Corrections

Sex Offender Treatment,
Management, and Registration

Calendar

February

- Black History Month
- 13 Board of Corrections Meeting
Oklahoma State Capitol
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 18 President's Day
- 19-22 Pardon & Parole Board Mtg.
Hillside CCC

March

- 9 Daylight Savings Time
- 14 Board of Corrections Meeting
Northeast Oklahoma CC
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 Spring Begins
- 25-28 Pardon & Parole Board Mtg.
Hillside CCC

April

- 19 Board of Corrections Meeting
Oklahoma State Capitol
- 22-25 Pardon & Parole Board Mtg.
Hillside CCC
- 23 Administrative Professionals
Day

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Janitorial Supplies	<i>Buffer Pads & Gloves, Wet Mops, Dust Mops & Frames, Brushes, Brooms & Handles</i>
Office Furniture	<i>A Full Line of Styles Including Heritage, Eclipse, & Statesman Furniture. Desks, Credenzas, Hutches, L-Shaped Workstations, Computer Workstations, Bookcases, Plant Stands, File Cabinets, Coffee & End Tables, Conference Tables in all Sizes. Custom Modular & Transitions Furniture</i>
Office Accessories	<i>Marker Boards, Picture Frames, Bulletin Boards, Magazine Rack, Printer Stand, Coat Rack, Podium, Table Top Lectern, Monitor Holder, Footrest, Telephone Stand, Tiered Organizer, Vertical File Organizer, Wrist Rest, Mouse Pad & Hospitality Cart</i>
Print Services	<i>Color Printing, Envelopes, 3-6 Part NCR Forms, Business Cards & Letterhead</i>
Recreational Furniture	<i>Picnic Tables, Park Benches, Bike Racks, Cigarette Snuffers, Litter Receptacles, Wood Slat Tables & Benches, Charcoal Grills, Smoker Grills, Fire Rings, Swings & Gliders</i>
Seating Furniture	<i>Highback & Lowback Task Chairs, Side Chairs, Adjustable Stools, Sofas, Loveseats, Chairs, Stacking Chairs, Folding Chairs, Lounge Furniture, Fiberglass Chairs & Furniture Re-Upholstery</i>
Signs & Decals	<i>Decals, Street Signs, Traffic Signs, Plastic Signs, Plaques, Desk Name Plates & Name Badges</i>
Silk Screening & Embroidery	<i>We sell a complete line of garments including Sport Shirts, Uniform Shirts, Jerseys, Tank Tops, Ball Caps, etc. for Silk Screening and Embroidery. This service also available on your own items.</i>
Tables	<i>Wooden Tables, Laminate Tables, Computer Tables, Folding Tables, Coffee & End Tables, Conference Tables & Children's Activity Tables</i>
Wood Furniture Renovation	<i>Repair and Refinish all styles of Wooden Furniture, Tables, Chairs, Desks & Bedroom Furniture, etc.</i>
Modular Buildings	<i>Modular construction consisting of several sizes of homes and buildings.</i>



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Kimberely Owen, Secretary
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For further information about career opportunities with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, please contact Personnel at **405-425-2861**; or call **1-877-276-JOBS**; view current job openings at **www.doc.state.ok.us**

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