

Adult Advisory Board
January 13, 2015
Stateville Correctional Center

Attendance: Acting Director S.A. Godinez, Assistant Director Gladys Taylor, Brad Curry, Joni Stahlman, Amber Bolden, Dr. Keith Lape, Tracey Williams, Phillip Whittington, Laura Kunard, Edna Lee, Maggie Burke, Mike Atchison, Dr. Louis Shicker, Dr. Melvin Hinton, Kendric Berry, David Olson, Christine Boyd, D. Shicker, Carlos Quezada-Gomez

Phone: Chief William Barnes, Jared Brunk, Shannis Stock,

Meeting began at 10:10 am

Approval of Minutes

*Phillip Whittington

*Laura Kunard 2nd the motion

Elect Chair for Adult Advisory Board for FY15 year

David Olson nominated Dr. Keith Lape for Chair of the Adult Advisory Board
Board members voted reelected Dr. Lape as Chair

*Edna Lee motion the vote

*Laura Kunard 2nd the motion

Elect Women Subcommittee for FY15 year

Dr. Keith Lape nominated David Olson to be reelected as Chair

*Phillip Whittington

* Laura Kunard

1. Legal RASHO Case, Chief Bill Barnes

Rasho Litigation class action suit of mental health case load in solving problems in lawsuit not providing care and mental health in the facility.

- Past 2 years the legal team has been working with the courts, court monitor to solve majority of problems. This confidential settlement the department identifies needs to create facilities, new treatment, and most need in-patient hospital level care. Identify need to treat SMI offender and provide care for mental health
- Dixon CC is the mental health male population facility.
- IYC Joliet facility is being refurbished to make it operational to serve a number of care to mental health patients.
- Looking to hire 200 professional staff, which can help improve treatment
- The capacity of IYC Joliet is 450-500 people depending on double celled or single celled

2. Adult Education and Vocational Services

- Christine Boyd stated that there are still several vacant positions within Adult Education and Vocational Services; especially for librarians and paralegal assistants. Currently, there are two

paralegals positions filled, and two positions vacant. Educator positions are filled quickly because many candidates qualify for these positions.

- There has not been a GED testing since July 2014 due to procurement issues and the requirements to pay vendor for contracts.
- Currently there are 100 offenders ready to test for their GED
- The waiting list decreased because of the wait to test
- The Adult Education program in Illinois is ahead of many states
- By 2020, 67 percent of Illinois jobs will require a college degree or certificate yet 3 million Illinois adults don't have education beyond high school.
- The Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) was changed July 22, 2014 for future of adult education. WIOA aligns with the President's vision for job-driven training and the Vice's President's report. "Ready to Work".
- The FY14' Vocational Completers were 2,041 and Participants 4,307
- The FY14' ABE Completers 2,032 and Participants 9,380
- The FY14' GED Completers 929 and 5,618
- The FY14' Career Tech Completers 2,899 and Participants 3,865

3. Budget FY 15 Supplemental, Chief Fiscal Officer Jared Brunk

For Fiscal Year 2015, the Illinois Department of Corrections has a supplemental need of \$117,086,200. This supplemental need is required for the Department to successfully address staffing needs that will generate savings in overtime, adequately meet the statutorily required obligations that must be afforded our inmate population and address the federal minimums associated with mental health. The supplemental details:

- \$70, 809,800 for personal services
 - If not received, March will be the last month three facilities will be able to make payroll.
Therefore, starting in April and continuing through to the end of the fiscal year, we will not have sufficient funding for our employees and payrolls will start to bounce.
- \$31,906,400 for statutorily required operations
 - This funding is used to pay for vendors, including Illinois Correctional Industries, for items like food, clothing and cleaning supplies. We cannot operate our prisons without these items, so without the funding to properly process the invoices, the bills will starting in January and continue until our supplemental need is addressed. This will cause vendors to experience a significant delay in receiving their payments and cost the state additional dollars in prompt payment penalties.
 - Within this amount is also the funding to allow for Phase I of the Department's efforts to increase the mental health services. The Department's efforts not only ensure that we work towards meeting the federal minimums but it also helps

prove to the courts that we are making adequate progress towards addressing the RASHO case.

- \$9,370,000 to pay CMS for telecommunication and computer services
 - CMS is our vendor for these services and we have outstanding bills that we are not able to process without supplemental funding.
- \$5,000,000 for payments to Illinois Hospitals
 - For the past several years the Department has not received an appropriation sufficient to cover all hospitalization expenses incurred. This year, our finding was exhausted in September due to under-funding of the FY14 supplemental request. However, with this supplemental we can address the backlog and ensure that hospital payments are made in a timely manner.
- **Total GRF supplemental request of \$117,086,200**

4. Mental Health

Dr. Hinton is continuing his efforts to work with mental health policies and procedures to provide the proper mental health care across all facilities. His team is working to improve on the various levels of care, identifying adequate programming space in addition to properly identifying the correct distribution of offenders throughout the system based on the required level of care for this unique population. The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) has looked at a few facilities within the Department with positive feedback. Dr. Hinton believes we will meet their standards as our current policy and procedures are comparable to other agencies. IDOC's policy is good but the biggest challenge is staff to effectively carry out a good policy. Staff shortages are challenging but blanket hires are not recommended. There will be a mix of Wexford and IDOC staffing increases to address mental health. The contract with Wexford states that they are to provide services as IDOC has a responsibility to provide administrative staffing as well. Most of clinical staff will come from Wexford. Careful distribution of staff to facilities that have the most need is the more viable solution. Currently, there are 140 Mental Health Professionals including psychiatrists who possess master degrees. The Department is looking to introduce bachelor's degree level hires into our system as well. Currently, Dr. Hinton is determining where to put offenders with the most need and hiring at those facilities and is working with DHS and various private entities to address the Department's inpatient mental health patients. Mental healthcare across the state is gaining more awareness. Illinois is looking into providing more community based treatment options.

5. Operations

The overall population has been leveled over several months. We are looking for alternative forms of disciplinary besides segregation. Recommendation: to have disciplinary conducted within the cell instead of moving offenders from the housing unit. We need to look at reducing segregation time and perhaps having offenders write accountability letters. The mental health professionals are providing input to the discretion of disciplinary segregation. Currently, the total inmate population is down. Per Director Godinez, Dwight required extensive repairs and the department has \$0 for those repairs, hence the move to Logan CC. Logan is not the cure all but the current solution to immediate danger. This

Department cannot refuse offenders. The mentally ill are coming to IDOC and not becoming mentally ill after they get here, which doesn't not look like IDOC is being as affective as it can be. We need to take a hard look on who the law makers are sending to prison. A recommendation is to put this message out on behalf of IDOC's point of view. This is difficult to defend without sounding defensive.

6. Subcommittee on Women's Issues

- a. The female population in October 2014 was 2,983 and today the population is 2,930 (reduced). There are about 211 intakes/month and 217 releases/month. This caused a lot of work on the staff as these numbers reflect a revolving door. The John Howard Association (JHA) report addressed 3 issues.
- b. Visiting Rooms – IDOC is asking for more money to build bigger visiting rooms when incarcerating mothers for the FY16 budget. Due to the incarceration of moms, the fate of the children resets as follows: 70% dads, 20% scattered / DCFS, 10% family members. The overall goal of the department is to keep the family whole. Visiting rooms are not large but will allow all visits with minimal limits.
- c. Alice Aside Bus – has problems keeping volunteers screened.
- d. Turn Arouds – about 4%/month are coming from cook county. There are current issues with the IL statute.

Next meeting to be held on 4/14/15 and the Board encouraged all members to be part of future meetings.

Meeting adjourned by Dr. Keith Lape at 11:45am