



UPAN Newsletter Volume 3 Number 7 | JULY 2016

“Empowerment and Growth Through Knowledge and Unity”

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NEXT UPAN MEETING: MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2016 6:30-8:30 PM

TOPIC: The Impact of Sex Offender Registries on Offenders and Families
Presented by Matt Duhamel, Metamora Films. This is the presentation he made at the 2016 Prisoner Family Conference in Texas earlier this year.

Location: Ruth Vine Tyler Library, 8041 South Wood Street (55 West) Midvale

September UPAN Meeting: MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Topic: To Be Determined

Location: West Valley City Library 2880 W 3650 S West Valley City, UT

NEXT FOCUS MEETING: September 2016 6-8 PM TOPIC and DATE: TBA

Location: Adult Probation and Parole Office, 36 W. Fremont Avenue, Salt Lake City UT 84101

(FOCUS meetings are held every other month on the first Monday of the month but the 1st Monday in September is Labor Day)

SPECIAL NOTICE: Everyone attending **FOCUS meetings**, needs to get there **BEFORE 6 PM.**

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Contact Info for: PrisonEd Foundation: Box 900693 Sandy, UT 84090 Email: prisonedfoundation@gmail.com

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Disclaimer: Formulate your own opinions about the information presented.
This information is presented for the reader’s enlightenment and evaluation.

Success is not final; failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts. Winston Churchill

Special Notice: Change in Moving Visitors to Visiting Areas in Draper – Be on Time!

Taken from www.corrections.utah.gov

Effective July 1, 2016, there will be a change in times for moving visitors into the visiting areas at the Utah State Prison. Currently, movements occur whenever the visitor arrives or every 15 minutes. As of July 1, movements will be made every 30 minutes only.

For example, visitors will be moved to visiting areas at 8 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Visitors who show up at 8:05 a.m. will have to wait until the 8:30 a.m. movement to be taken to the visiting area.

INMATE PLACEMENT PROGRAM (IPP)

by Molly Prince

State Inmates Housed In County Jails

One of UPAN's areas of focus and growing concern over the past year has been the Inmate Placement Program. IPP is a method that the Utah Department of Corrections (UDC) uses to house state inmates in county jails around the state. A state inmate is one who has been sentenced to prison, not jail. For our purposes in this article, we are only addressing state inmates housed in county jails, and are not addressing issues related to county inmates in the jails. A county inmate is someone who is in a county jail awaiting arraignment or going through the legal and trial process prior to adjudication who has not posted bail, or someone who has been sentenced by the judge to JAIL time rather than PRISON. An IPP inmate is an offender who is under the jurisdiction of the Utah Department of Corrections who is referred to a contracted county jail for housing. The contracted county facility has the authority to approve or deny the referral. The UDC reimburses each contracted county jail for housing state inmates.

Origination, Cited Benefits, and Current Changes

IPP was created in 1987 when the Draper facility was operating at maximum bed capacity. This was prior to the construction of Central Utah Correctional Facility (CUCF) in Gunnison. According to prison officials at that time, IPP was also intended to offer housing locations to inmates in areas of the state close to their family and support system for purposes of ease of visiting and potential of parole to that area.

As of 2016, the intent of IPP appears to have become a mechanism whose primary purpose is to house inmates outside of the main Draper prison and maximize the contracts already in place with the county jails. This is apparently due to a current shortage of correctional staff in Draper and to utilize the bed space the State has contracted with the county jails. However, as of July 22, 2016, the UDC website continues to state the following about the use of IPP:

“The State's prison system does not have adequate beds to house all inmates. In 1987 the Utah State Prison reached maximum bed capacity, which led the Department to reach out to county jails throughout the

State for help. That situation led to creation of the Inmate Placement Program.

Today, the State's prison system continues to be unable to house all inmates. The Inmate Placement Program sends eligible inmates to counties that have contracted with the State to provide jail housing. The Utah Legislature approves counties' participation in the program and also sets a daily incarceration fee rate.”

The UDC contracts with 21 county jails around the state of Utah to house offenders for various reasons (there are 26 counties in Utah). The prison currently has state inmates in 20 of the jails. An article in July 2015 UPAN news detailed the information that can also be found in the *Utah Department of Corrections Jail Programs* booklet dated January 2015: www.corrections.utah.gov/images/Brooke?JAILBOOK2015.pdf). We have been advised that an update of this booklet is underway.

Some Reported Benefits of Use of County Jails

UPAN directors understand that some state inmates prefer county jail placement for a variety of reasons, including being closer to loved ones who couldn't travel hundreds of miles to visit them and to participate in specific programming such as substance abuse or sex offender treatment programs. County jails have been useful for safety and security purposes, such as when an individual cannot be safely housed in general population in one of the prisons but also shouldn't be housed in a maximum security unit for protective custody purposes.

Another reason that has been cited by the Department of Corrections as to the reasons IPP was created almost 30 years ago had to do with allowing offenders to be housed in a county jail closer to their families to facilitate support from the family and ease of visiting. Back then there was actually in-person visiting either through contact visits, barrier visits, or both. Being housed in a county jail close to family can in some ways reduce the cost to the family in helping to support their incarcerated loved one, such as phone calls costing less locally than long distance and easier access for on-site visiting.

Barrier And Video Visits Only, Plus Financial Costs

It should be noted that there is no longer a county jail in Utah that offers routine contact visits. Of 21 contracted jails, 14 offer barrier visits and 7 offer video visits as the only method of visitation. Further, in the video-only jails, more than one video visit a week incurs a cost to inmate and family, so the video visits have become a money maker for the counties. (See May and June 2016 UPAN newsletters.) Other financial costs to offenders and their families are significantly increased when they are housed in county jails. In future newsletters, UPAN plans to address the wide range of concerns and problems associated with the use of county jails to house state inmates.

The Sad Reality For Many Utah State Inmates And Their Families

Before continuing this article, it should be stressed that for many Utah State inmates, their incarceration is NOT a short "time out" of a year or two, but their life for many years. The quality of that life, the opportunities they have to get an education, learn social and self-management skills, participate in treatment for problems, and better themselves is vital to their rehabilitation and the probability that they will do well upon returning to the community at some point.

Prison is also way of life for the families of offenders with long sentences. Families who choose to remain involved with their incarcerated loved one do time right along with the incarcerated person. Some will spend 15, 20, or 30 years in prison before being released to the community to rebuild a life outside the institution. Some inmates will never be released.

The way children of incarcerated parents grow up is based on visits, phone calls, cards and letters. Parents of inmates grow old, get sick, die. There are marriages and divorces, births and deaths. The cycle of life goes on for those inside the bars and for those outside. Inmates experience all of the challenges and blessings that we all do in our lives, but from the inside. Loved ones of offenders share their life experiences with their incarcerated inmates in visiting rooms, video visits, through phone calls and letters. ***This is their life! This is our life!***

Some people will never be released from prison, so prison is the environment of their lives, and visiting rooms and phone calls are the environment of much of the lives of inmate families and friends. Simply warehousing and shuffling offenders back and forth between prisons and county jails without the purpose of programming or other important rehabilitative reasons can reduce the quality of that life and is not conducive to effective rehabilitation.

Lack Of Consistency In Handling Inmate Property

In 2015, UPAN shared concern with IPP and DOC administrators regarding the lack of consistency in

property matrices between the prison and the various county jails, and between county jails themselves. We are pleased to report that we have been advised that this is being addressed and that the county sheriffs and jail administrators are working on standardizing property matrices in order to reduce the loss of property by an inmate during moves from one facility to another. We are hoping to have a meeting with the IPP Director to verify where they are in this process. All property not allowed to follow the offender must either be picked up by family designated by the offender, or it is discarded and destroyed by the facility. Collectively, this costs offenders and their support systems thousands of dollars each year.

Last year, UPAN also requested the possibility of the prisons and jails allocating storage space to assure that an inmate's property could be held at the facility left behind for a certain number of months in case the inmate is transferred back to that facility within the year, so that multiple transfers will not result in such serious loss of property over and over again. So far in 2016, UPAN has noticed that the frequency of transfers between the prisons and the jails, and between the jails themselves have increased. We have noticed that in several instances an inmate has been transferred to three or more different county jails within a six-month period. This is disruptive to the wellbeing of state inmates who have to repeatedly adjust to new environments, new policies and ways of operation.

Funds Don't Follow Inmate In a Timely Manner

Another problem with frequent IPP moves is the delay in inmates' funds following them to the county jail. This can create a financial burden on the offender and family. One UPAN family's inmate's funds have still not caught up to him after 3 months. It was last summer that UPAN directors suggested that the DIO and IPP look into having inmate funds transferred electronically the same day the inmate is moved. Obviously this has not yet occurred on a statewide basis, particularly between jails.

Philosophy of Some County Sheriffs is Focused on Punishment Rather than Rehabilitation

When one family member attempted to discuss issues related to needs of long term state inmates in one county jail, she reports that she was told that the jail is only concerned with community safety and punishment, and that rehabilitation is not at the top of the list of priorities. This was discouraging to learn, because UDC officials have repeatedly told us "offenders come to prison as their punishment, not for (more) punishment."

Utah's county jails were designed and intended for short term incarceration (one year or less), rather than long term incarceration, which is generally what state inmates are sentenced to. This is a serious concern for some UPAN families who have loved ones who are on

lengthy sentences. The majority of our county jails are not on par with USP in programming, educational, recreational, or adequate employment opportunities to meet the needs of a state prison inmate. UPAN is researching what is available in all county jails for state inmates to access.

UPAN Has Identified A Variety Of Areas Of Concern, Some Are Listed Here.

Each will be addressed in more detail in future UPAN newsletters.

- Communication issues: phone call issues, mail policies that are sometimes postcard-only, or require inmate to pay for email; inability for state inmates in certain county jails to receive magazines and publications, including the UPAN newsletter which they should have a right to receive. Families have a right to receive full letters and cards from their incarcerated loved ones, and many county jails deny this right.
- The prison and the county jails refuse to forward mail for state inmates that are transferred from jail to jail or back and forth between jail and prison, usually not the inmate's fault. Instead they return mail to the sender with no explanation other than they are not housed there anymore.
- Visiting challenges are HUGE. While Utah touts that it is a family oriented state, this seems to be not applicable to Utah's inmates housed in county jails. The prevalence of barrier only or video only visiting in our county jails limits much needed contact between families and their incarcerated loved ones. Contact visits where hand hugs and hand holding above the table are well known to reduce management problems in the facility, as well as reduce depression and anxiety in offenders.
- Recreational activities and outside yard time is almost non-existent in many county jails in Utah.
- Commissary and property issues. Commissary costs and vendors are not uniform throughout the state.

We Would Like to Hear From You About Inmate Placement Program!

Inmates (past and present), families, and all those interested in providing us information.

Concerns About IPP Impact On Inmates & Families

Due to the increased use of IPP, and the serious concerns that many have over how state inmates and their families are impacted when state inmates are held in county jails, UPAN wants to collect more information on various issues that affect state inmates and their families.

Research has shown that county jails are not meant to house people for more than a year. Conditions in certain jails can push the boundaries of what the human

* Property matrices are also inconsistent between the prison and between various jails.

- Crafts / hobbies, and things to productively occupy time are almost non-existent in county jails but are available in state prisons.
- Medical, dental care and mental health treatment is a huge concern for individuals housed in county jails.
- Lack of educational opportunities in county jails for state inmates.
- Lack of equal access to religious and spiritual resources and services for all state inmates.
- Lack of enough jobs to offer state inmates employment in all county jails.
- Attorney-client privilege and access to private legal visits or other types of professional visits is limited.
- Idle time in county jails, where inmates had jobs and activities in the prisons they left, they are often locked down many hours a day in county jails with little to do.
- Inconsistency of all types of policies between the prison and the various jails.
- Meals and special diets.
- Inmate accounting issues and timely transfer of funds
- What is it costing taxpayers to transport state inmates back and forth between county jails and either of the prisons (or other places inmates need to go for medical or Board purposes) at the accelerated rate these moves are happening?

UPAN Will Work Toward Standardization

We hope to gather more information on how things are really working for state inmates and their families[See next article, Ed.] [See next article, Ed.] es who are housed in each county jail. [See next article, Ed.] Look for future articles about the myriad of problems that have been identified that impact both inmates and their families.

psyche can tolerate, and mental, physical and spiritual damage can occur when inmates are held too long in these conditions. However, the Utah Department of Corrections asserts that people "go to prison 'AS' punishment, NOT 'FOR' punishment." [This distinction is important! Think about it! Ed.] The UDC Mission Statement states they are "...devoted to providing maximum opportunities for offenders to make lasting changes through accountability, treatment, education, and positive reinforcement within a safe environment."

This is not happening for many state inmates in the jails. Most have been classified as good model inmates and they and their families feel they are being further punished when taken away from opportunities they had in the prisons.

Only offenders who have no physical or mental problems and are not management problems in the prison are sent to IPP. Being sent to a county jail and losing their jobs, recreational opportunities, volunteer work, contact visits, letter writing and receiving and other mail privileges, and other programs offered in the prison can feel like punishment to those who have no programming or other reason to be placed on IPP.

UPAN Will Focus On Most Complained-about Issues

Because the list of issues is long, first we will focus on a few of the issues more frequently complained about by both inmates AND families involved with IPP.

- 1) VISITING: Video/Barrier/Contact (or lack thereof). Problems, Rules, Operation, Costs, etc.
- 2) COMMUNICATIONS: Phone calls/Mail policies, (Postcard-only) Problems, Rules, Operation, Costs, etc.)
- 3) COMMISSARY/ PROPERTY: Costs and items offered. We need to obtain price lists & compare with prison & other jails. Being able to KEEP & USE property already purchased in ALL jails. With

WHOM & WHERE do the jails contract for commissary?

- 4) How MEDICAL/ DENTAL/ MENTAL/ HEALTH-NUTRITION and OTHER WELLBEING is being handled, as well as family notification and involvement

Future Information Gathering

Other issues we will be researching in the future include but are not limited to: Education, Programming & Work Opportunities in each jail; Recreation and Outdoor Recreation (Or lack thereof); Classification; Punishments; Crafts, Hobbies and Other Things to do; Legal Access & Attorney-Client Privilege.

In any correspondence about this: Please keep your information specific and identify the county jail you are talking about. If you are willing to share estimates of actual financial cost of property lost, please do so. If you or your inmate have been in multiple jails we would be interested in how many, which ones, and duration of stay in each one and the reasons you were given (if any) for being transferred multiple times; particularly those who have been in multiple jails within the past year. Time frames are important.

Please send your information to: UPAN, IPP Research, P.O. Box 464 Draper, UT 84020 or email to utahprisoneradvocate@gmail.com with IPP Research in the subject line. Thank you for your interest.

Daughter of Incarcerated Father Gives Speech to Utah Legislators at June 13, 2016 UPAN Meeting by Brianna

The following is being printed as it was written and presented in UPAN's June's Meeting with Legislators by a daughter of an incarcerated father. Other than places where UPAN has added something in italics for clarification, the speech has been unaltered by editor. The following is from her perspective and UPAN wishes to honor her feelings by printing it, in its entirety, without editing it. UPAN is interested in bringing the challenges faced by children of inmates out into the open for everyone to understand. Thank you, Brianna, for your courage and willingness to share.

I am a victim of the state. My dad was ripped away from me when I was 9 years old and he is still being ripped away from me, constantly, through the IPP program, (*Inmate Placement Program which places state inmates in county jails for housing*) where they punish good, well-behaved state inmates by putting them into jails that are ONLY designed for people to be housed for a year, max! But of course, they don't seem to care that prison inmates should not be mixed with jail inmates. And then they will keep the prison inmates in the jails for longer than a year while they make money off of them.

It makes it a lot worse that, half the time, I constantly wonder where my dad is, because he has been moved around so much. Sometimes, when things change we call to ask how he is doing or where he is, and the IPP

people will tell us that he's a grown man that can call us and tell us if anything is ever wrong with him. But then they won't even let him use a phone to call us and they treat him like he is a child, so my whole family goes into panic mode for days wondering if he's dead or in danger.

The system talks about how they are a system of justice, but **where is my justice?** I have never felt that I have received any justice. I feel severely abused by the fact that I don't have my protector and provider in my life. I have always been affected by it. There were so many years I went through school knowing my dad could help me, but he couldn't because I wasn't even allowed to see him at all for years. I just wanted to hug him and build a father-daughter relationship with him, and I still can't. My dad's punishment has done nothing

but harm, and it was the main reason I ever began praying on my own every single night when I was little, and I still do, constantly.

It's totally ruined my self-esteem. Seeing my peers with seemingly happy lives that have good relationships with their dads makes me hurt. I am so happy for them, but it hurts me knowing I haven't had that chance, because of him being ripped away from me. The older I got, the more I realized how crucial a father role in the home really is. I know, without a doubt, my dad could provide for my family and he has always been willing to, and from what I remember from when I was little, he was an amazing dad! He would always make sure we were safe and having fun. He still is amazing, and I was crushed when he disappeared and I stopped seeing him. I didn't fully understand where he went at 9 years old, but I cried a lot. You can't just randomly take something away from a child that means so much to them when the child never did anything wrong. Would that make God happy? I don't think so.

I have always felt like I have had to live my life in secret because of the fact that anyone could search up my last name and find my dad. Teenagers are extremely judgmental. I lost all of my friends and I went from being outgoing to completely shy and closed-off. I stopped talking to everyone at school because I was terrified that if I got close to them, they would try prying into my life and I always felt like everyone already somehow knew my situation. I felt judged constantly and during my high school years I figured if I just didn't talk to anyone, I wouldn't have to go through the pain of people leaving if they ever found out I had an incarcerated father. I didn't get to have a good or fun high school experience because of this. My childhood was taken away from me and I learned to not trust anyone through it.

High school has been the absolute worst years of my life, my grades dropped immensely and it made it harder knowing that whoever runs these jails and prisons would never let my dad attend my graduation. I had no motivation, but with the little hope that maybe he would be allowed to go, just MAYBE. I barely scraped by and graduated. The only gift I have ever wanted for a birthday or special event was for my dad to be there to see me accomplish something, especially graduation. I cried the night before I graduated knowing he couldn't be there and I am still affected by it and I know I always will be. I want to move on but I feel like I can't.

Why do we treat these inmates like monsters? Like Jesus said, "let he who is without sin cast the first stone." Regardless of the sin any of us commit, they are all just as bad and they will all keep us outside of the gates of heaven. God wants all of us to repent and have a true change of heart. He suffered for us so we can be forgiven, and these inmates are not being given that chance, and they have that right. We should be helping all inmates return to Christ instead of thinking they are hopeless evil people. They have souls that need saving, they are our brothers and sisters. We should be helping them.

Before I end I just want to end with a quick scripture hoping the legislators and everyone else will think about their own position right now with their jobs. Matthew 6:24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Please Remember who you really stand for when you say, "I'm just doing my job". Thank you.

"I think togetherness is a very important ingredient to family life." – Barbara Bush

Deviations from the Matrix / Sentencing Guidelines by Board of Pardons and Parole

by Molly Prince

Clarification On Sentencing Guidelines aka Matrix

UPAN continues to receive letters regarding the Board of Pardons and Parole (BOPP) making decisions that deviate from the sentencing guidelines, also known as the matrix. Hopefully this article will clear up the continued misconception that the Board is legally bound to follow the sentencing guideline / matrix.

The Matrix Is Not The Sentence

The BOPP is not obligated nor required by law to follow the matrix score on any offender's sentencing guideline. Repeat: The matrix is not the sentence. The sentence is what the judge determines and orders. Inmates can refer to their orders of judgement and sentence to see, in written form, exactly what the judge ordered. The

matrix is simply a score completed pre-sentence, and again post-sentence, and again by the Board to give a rough idea of the expected length of stay of a prisoner based on their criminal history and current offense, and current circumstances.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys often tell an individual being sentenced that they will only serve a certain number of years on any given sentence, based on their sentencing guideline or matrix score, particularly in a plea bargain. Unfortunately, any estimate of future time to be served is just a guess, and the predictions of counsel about the length of incarceration during a plea agreement are not binding and may or may not be what actually happens. The Board is a

completely separate entity from the courts or the judicial process. Once sentenced to prison, the BOPP has total jurisdiction over the inmate's imprisonment and release. The Court is no longer involved.

Utah Is An Indeterminate Sentencing State

This means that the judge sentences someone to a range of years to serve, with a minimum (bottom) number of years and a maximum (top) number of years. An example would be that in a 1 – 15 sentence, the offender would be required to serve no less than the bottom number (1 year) and no more than the top number (15 years). The Board determines how long in the span of 1- 15 years the offender will serve in prison. If the offender is released on parole (that is, prior to the top number in the sentence), then they have the possibility to remain on parole for the entire time until the entire 15 years is finished. Sometimes, a parolee can petition the BOPP with the support of their parole officer for an early termination of their sentence, so they may end up not doing the entire 15 years during both prison and parole.

Therefore, when someone is sentenced to a 5 – Life, the shortest time they would spend in prison could be 5 years, and the longest time they could spend in prison is 100 years, or their natural life span. It is all up to the Board which has been handing down "natural life" decisions more and more frequently in the past several years. While it is not technically "re-sentencing" an offender, it feels like it, particularly when the individual was advised at a plea bargain that they would do any number of years lesser than their life.

No "Good-time" Policy In Utah

Utah does not have a "good time" policy in place like many other states do. A good time policy allows time to be deducted off either the bottom or top end of a sentence, or both. In other states, a good time policy can apply to individuals while in prison, on parole, or both. [This would surely be an incentive for good behavior and cooperation by the inmates. Ed.]

So Why Have A Matrix Score?

The matrix is an informal way for the BOPP to look at and determine an inmate's length of stay. Sentencing guidelines and the matrix score are not legally binding. They are simply a tool and recommendations developed by the Utah Sentencing Commission to assist in determining the length an individual should be incarcerated based on a variety of factors. The most recent revision of these guidelines can be found at <http://www.sentencing.utah.gov/> and then click on the box "2015 Sentencing Guidelines."

Other Factors Considered Besides The Matrix

Inmates can use the guidelines to give themselves a rough estimate of how long they *might* be incarcerated. However, the Board uses a variety of other factors in addition to the matrix score to guide their determination

and decisions. In addition to the matrix, the Board looks at the offender's past criminal history, any history of supervision on probation or parole, the nature and severity of the offense, (which all seem redundant, since the current offense itself, criminal history and supervision history prior to incarceration for the current offense is already taken into account in the matrix score), accomplishments or behavioral problems while incarcerated, programming and CAP goal accomplishments, to name several. As we all know, the Board uses a lot of discretion in making decisions. This wide range of discretion is being examined now, as the Board administration works to comply with the Board Audit recommendations. (See UPAN February through June 2016 newsletters for detailed summary of recommendations.)

The Bottom Line

If an inmate believes that the Board deviated too much from their matrix / guidelines, the inmate may write the board requesting a detailed and specific explanation for the decision. The inmate should be specific in their questions about the decision they are asking about. Thanks to the Audit, the Board is fully aware that the current rationale sheet that is required to accompany a decision order is sorely inadequate to fully explain the reasons for a determination that is significantly over guideline. Until the Board has developed a more comprehensive and specific rationale worksheet and explanation, it is completely reasonable to expect they would respond in letter form to specific questions about a decision.

Once the BOPP has electronic data gathering and record keeping in place, tracking the percentage of Board determinations that are over or under matrix will be possible. Currently there is no way to track this important information.

Board Decisions Cannot Generally be Challenged in the Courts

Another question we receive on a regular has to do with the possibility of Board decisions being challenged in the Courts. UPAN doesn't have legal counsel, so what we can say about that is limited. It is our understanding that in general, all BOPP decisions are final, not eligible for appeal or judicial review. We understand that inmates can appeal decisions if they feel their due process rights were violated. A violation of due process would include a situation in which the Board failed to provide the inmate with copies of all documents and summaries to be reviewed for their hearing approximately 7 – 10 days prior to the hearing. There are other habeas corpus laws that are too complex to attempt to explain in this article.

For UPAN families who are interested in learning more about the Board, go to www.bop.utah.gov . To more fully research the processes & rules of the BOPP, go to <http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r671/r671.htm> .

JULY 11, 2016 FOCUS MEETING

Director of Community Programming CARRIE COCHRAN and Director of Institutional Programming VICTOR KERSEY by Molly Prince

Director Carrie Cochran Presentation Highlights

Carrie Cochran has been the Director of Community Programming for the DOC for about a year. She has been with the department for 25 years in various positions. As director, she is responsible for programming for Adult Probation & Parole (A P & P), and the Community Correctional and Transitional Centers. ccochran@utah.gov 801-545-5915. Her office is located in the UDC Administration Building.

Ms. Cochran discussed the new direction she is taking with programming which involves shifts to evidence based practice in treatment programs and delivery. This means the DOC will be using therapy, psycho-educational skills class and educational programs that research shows helps to improve the potential of success for individuals as well as contribute to the reduction of recidivism. Most of the therapy and skills classes are based on an approach called Moral Reconnection Therapy, which is considered by Corrections the premier cognitive-behavioral therapy. (FYI: Google it. Ed.)

Ms. Cochran also discussed the consistent implementation of risk and needs assessments for each offender to identify the level of treatment or intervention each person needs, and will assist in guiding the approaches that are taken with individuals on probation and parole that need various levels of treatment and intervention in order to be successful. (A more detailed discussion of Risk Needs Assessments is covered in the March 2016 UPAN news article *Explaining Criminogenic Risk/Needs Assessments Referred to in the Performance Audit of the Board.*)

She also reported that there are 9 agents and 1 supervisor assigned to the Transition Specialist team in the DOC. While their office is in Wasatch in Draper prison, they are supposed to go out to all the jails as well as Gunnison to meet with inmates who are getting within several months of their release dates to assist in helping them line up services and resources for their release. This includes inmates who are going to parole, terminate, or expire their sentence. This program was fully implemented in February 2016.

She also discussed that the DOC is working with the Utah Department of Human Services and other agencies to assure that there are uniform treatment standards across the state for substance abuse and mental health treatment. The DOC already has standardized treatment standards for outpatient sex

offender treatment. These parameters can be found on the UDC website.

Director Victor Kersey Presentation Highlights

Victor Kersey is the new Director of Institutional Programming. He is responsible for treatment programs, educational programs, skills and other classes offered in the institutions, as well as religious programming in the prisons. He also is beginning to look into programming areas for state inmates in the county jails who house state inmates on IPP.

Dr. Kersey started this position on May 2, 2016, and is still learning how things have been working in the UDC programming. He came to us from Illinois where he worked in the Illinois adult and juvenile systems for the past 13 years. He started his career in the U.S. Navy as a correctional counseling officer in the brig. He has a PhD in Clinical Psychology.

Kersey shared his awareness that the world continues outside of prison walls and he hopes to guide institutional programming to help to prepare offenders for success upon parole as well as cope with the issues that arise as the lives of their families and friends continues out here. He also acknowledges that our entire country uses correctional systems as a repository for individuals suffering from mental illness.

The Director states his program philosophy is that all programming necessary to help offenders succeed needs to be standardized and present – even in county jails. UPAN is pleased to hear of his approach! He is creating his own audit to determine what needs to be done to provide all programming necessary to all state inmates. He stated he wants to develop a tighter network between county jails with communication about programming and treatment issues. He also said he is committed to complying with best practice in the industry. He stated that he expects full accountability from his staff.

He agrees with and supports Ms. Cochran's discussion about conducting risk assessments on the front end of an individual's experience in the criminal justice system to identify who needs what type of treatment.

The Office of Institutional Programming now also handles the supervision of case managers for the prison since last fall. The director over case managers is Brian Taylor. Director Kersey was asked how he is going to handle the task of holding all case managers throughout the prison system accountable to the same

standards. Attendees discussed with Kersey that there has been a terrible inconsistency over the years in the performance of case managers throughout the prison system. Some are very attentive and responsible in their jobs, and others don't seem to care about their responsibility to the inmates they are assigned and are difficult to access.

Kersey stated that in order to assure accountability and consistency with the 65 case managers that work for the DOC, he will: 1) learn their actual job descriptions, and 2) meet with them and give them his expectations.

Discussion was also held about the challenges inmates face in terms of continuity of care and religious programming between county jails and the prisons. The fact that not all contracted county jails make and

effort to offer religious services or accommodations for state inmates of non-dominant religions and spiritual practices (such as Native American, Muslim, Judaism, Wiccan) was brought up. Kersey expressed surprise to learn this is the case. He committed to looking into this issue.

UPAN Will Work With Directors as Problems Arise

The addition of Dr. Victor Kersey is a move in a new direction for the UDC Programming division. UPAN is very interested to see what develops and what improvements will be made in the delivery, continuity and consistency of program and religious services, as well as with the services provided by case managers across the board. We look forward to working with both Kersey and Cochran's offices to resolve challenges and problems in the future.

Develop success from failures. Discouragement & failure are two of the surest stepping stones to success. D. Carnegie

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall. Confucius

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Inmates at Draper Can Order from the Serving Time Cafe **Brooke Adams, Public Information Office, UDC**

Twice a month, inmates who hold jobs through Utah Correctional Industries or off-housing unit employment (such as the greenhouse, the Wasatch Chapel) have the opportunity to purchase a meal from the Serving Time Cafe. This unique privilege has been available since Jan. 31, 2014, as an incentive for being productively and positively engaged.

The cafe is located on the outside perimeter of the Utah State Prison and is run by female inmates under the supervision of a UCI supervisor. It is open to the public and has a reputation for great food! (*UPAN Director Molly Prince and her husband Lacey Harris can attest to the quality of the meals!*)

Inmates purchase the special meals through the commissary. The cafe charges \$8, the same amount people pay at the cafe's counter, for an identical meal. A typical pre-selected meal might include a double bacon cheeseburger, fries and homemade cookies or jalapeno burger, tater tots and peanut butter brownie. Sometimes, they get a special breakfast or holiday meal.

The meals are delivered directly to the inmate at his or her job site on three different days each week.

As many as 300 inmates have participated in the incentive opportunity at one time and word is they love it!

Doctoral Student Seeking Study Participants on Incarceration and Solitary Confinement

Veronica V. Solaris MSCP, MA, is a fourth-year doctoral student in Clinical Forensic Psychology at the California School of Forensic Studies, San Francisco Campus of Alliant International University. She is doing a study researching the experiences of men who were housed in restrictive housing and solitary confinement. She is also looking at the men who were held in general population cells or with another inmate. Her interest is examining the effects on inmates of being separated from other people.

Ms. Solaris is seeking volunteers to participate in a study about their personal preferences as a result of their experiences in prison or jail. She is interested in hearing from individuals who were housed for at least 5

months in solitary confinement, restrictive housing, maximum security, as well as in general population.

This research is currently being conducted via the internet with individuals already released from prison who have access to the internet. Ms. Solaris is currently preparing a packet that can be used to conduct her research by mail with currently incarcerated individuals. We anticipate this will be available in August.

For now, we encourage individuals on probation or parole to consider participating. Please consider sharing this opportunity and the email links below with other potential participants.

All participation in this study will be kept confidential, meaning no one will know who took part in the study other than Ms. Solaris and her supervisor, Dr. Testa. All data collected will be kept in a computer account that only Ms. Solaris has access to. All data collected will be destroyed after it has been analyzed within 5 years after the participant has signed the agreement to participate.

Although participants may not benefit immediately or directly from this study, responses may be used to bring awareness to the general population and public officials about the treatment of individuals in prison/jail and help improve the transition of individuals into society once they are released from incarceration.

She Is Looking For Individuals Who:

- Are formerly incarcerated individuals who have been released from jail or prison;
- Have access to a computer/phone and internet services;
- Are between 18 and 85 years of age;
- Have been imprisoned for a minimum of five months;
- Can read and understand English with a minimum of 7th grade reading level.

Please note that participation in this study is strictly voluntary. Participants will complete two sections to this study. The first are screening questions to ensure you meet the criteria. Then, participants will be asked to answer 37 questions about their current personal interests. Participation in this study will take about 15-20 minutes to finish.

If you have any questions about this study, please feel free to contact Ms. Solaris by email at: vsolaris@alliant.edu or her supervisor Dr. Arinn Testa at (415) 505 0588 or atesta@alliant.edu. She sends her appreciation for your consideration in participating in this study.

Please go to the links below to begin viewing the full description of the study and to access the study itself:

<http://www.alliant.edu/for-the-community/participate-in-research/>

https://alliant.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cN2ys4lBea73Rqd&Link=2

We hope by next month we will have the paper version to provide to inmates who are interested in participating.

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PrisonEd Report June 30, 2016

Email: prisonedfoundation@gmail.com; Address: P.O. Box 900693 Sandy, UT 84090

NEW STUDENTS DURING June: 12 (20 previous month)

CURRENT STUDENTS AND PREVIOUSLY SERVED STUDENTS

288 CURRENT STUDENTS (276 previous month); 71% of total
116 Draper (110 previous month)
39 Gunnison (39 previous month)
133 Jails (127 previous month)
117 PREVIOUSLY SERVED STUDENTS (117 previous month); 29% of total
405 TOTAL STUDENTS who have ever enrolled in PrisonEd (393 previous month)

* * * * *

Maturity: Be able to stick with a job until it is finished. Be able to bear an injustice without having to get even. Be able to carry money without spending it. Do your duty without being supervised. Ann Landers

That some achieve great success, is proof to all that others can achieve it as well. Abraham Lincoln

That's all till next month. I hope you are enjoying the UPAN Newsletter and find it informative. Stay cool, Ed.

Utah Prisoner Advocate Network
P.O. Box 464, Draper, UT 84020
Website: UtahPrisonerAdvocate.org
Email: Utahprisoneradvocate@gmail.com

President: Molly Prince
Vice-president: Shauna Denos
Secretary: Mike McAinsh
Director of Communications: Shane Severson
Newsletter Editor: Warren Rosenbaum