



Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

Weekly Views

From the Office of J. David Donahue, Commissioner

“Some people are making such thorough plans for rainy days that they aren't enjoying today's sunshine.” ~ William Feather

Friday, May 23, 2008

Indiana's unemployment rate for April was the lowest of neighboring states at 4.7%. Nevertheless, the Indiana Department of Correction always needs hardworking, dedicated individuals to join our team, so spread the word to your family, friends, and neighbors that would be interested. More information can be found on our website at <http://www.in.gov/idoc/2340.htm>.

Indianapolis Parole District #3 held the first-ever Parole district job fair where 22 employers and 2 facilities of higher learning were represented. 301 parolees attended, and 22 were hired for employment, while 71 enrolled in school.

Ball State University and Grace College held graduation ceremonies at Pendleton Correctional Facility. 41 offenders graduated from the two institutions, 28 from Ball State University and 14 from Grace College. Deputy Mayor of Indianapolis Olgen Williams was the guest speaker.

Putnamville Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit donated \$200 to the Away Home Shelter in Greencastle. The Away Home Shelter provides housing to families who are homeless.

Offenders in the CLIFF program at Rockville Correctional Facility held an Outreach Program for local juveniles under the supervision of the Parke County Probation Department. The program consisted of a panel of CLIFF offenders and included topics regarding peer influence, family support/intervention, and aftercare.

Correctional Industrial Facility completed a Kairos event, which included 42 offenders and 47 volunteers.

Camp Summit recognized 20 students in special ceremonies for successfully completing the Keys to Success Program. The program is value-based designed to help others make the connection between positive pro-social characteristics and success.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility held the second Nurturing Fatherhood special event where family members were allowed to visit with the offenders participating in the program.

Indiana Women's Prison held a fundraiser dinner for volunteers, who had to donate a minimum \$25 gift card to attend. Offenders read essays on "Being a Mother in Prison," between the performances of the IWP Playback Theatre Company. The fundraiser raised almost \$1200, which will purchase 6 months of food supplies for the Family Preservation Program.

Putnamville Correctional Facility's K-9 Unit participated in the "Fair on the Square" in Greencastle. K-9 demonstrations were given and over \$800 was raised for the International Police Work Dog Association National Conference.

Westville Correctional Facility hosted the formal graduation ceremonies for offenders who completed Purdue University studies. The President of Purdue University conferred 1 Bachelor's degree, 22 Associate's degrees, and 22 Certificates of Completion at the 23rd annual graduation ceremony.

In line with INShape Indiana, Correctional Industrial Facility's Recreation Leader Randy Cornwell lost a total of 46.4 pounds in a three month period. CIF awarded Randy the "Biggest Loser" title for the facility.

90 Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS participants completed their first and second quarters of the faith and character-based program. A special ceremony and reception marked the occasion with special guests Terry Jenkins, David Liebel, and Isaac Randolph, Executive Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

A pilot program at Pendleton Correctional facility will enroll offenders failing a urinalysis test into a substance abuse program for 3 months. Upon completion of the program the offender, can request for reinstatement of contact visitation. Only those offenders who give 100% during their participation in the drug treatment program will be reinstated. If the offender tests positive after their reinstatement they will return to their previous sanction.

Plainfield Correctional Facility had 13 offenders graduate from Indiana State University. 2 offenders graduated with Bachelor's Degrees in General Studies and 11 offenders graduated with Associate's Degrees in General Studies. The offenders' families were allowed to attend the graduation ceremony and attend a reception following the ceremony.