

# Weekly Views

November 15, 2013

Staff Development and Training piloted the Joint Understanding and Cooperation Program at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. This training program is intended to improve the level of mutual respect and communication between staff and offender/student population. This is a very unique program that is training for both staff and students. This training also brings both staff and offenders/students together on the third day of the training. Positive feedback was received from both the staff and students regarding this training. (photo below)

Staff rolled up their sleeves for Flu shots administered by Kroger Pharmacists

during a Flu Shot Clinic held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The facility took a proactive stance by hosting the two-day clinic in an attempt to prevent the disease and spread of the virus thereby reducing staff call-ins and staff shortages during the Flu season.

The Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office participated in a multi-jurisdictional community-policing, saturation sweep in conjunction with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department that resulted in total of 54 arrests on outstanding warrants or new criminal charges, 28 summons/arrests and 128 Uniform Traffic Tickets with more arrests possible that remain under investigation with multiple agencies. Thirty-three parolees received unscheduled visits during this 24-hour sweep of an identified 'hot spot' area of recent criminal activity, resulting in two arrests for Possession and Dealing of Marijuana.



Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) held a fundraising event for the State Employees Community Campaign (SECC) to benefit the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI). Miami held its 1st MCF SECC CPAFI Fall Ride and Raffle. It turned out to be a beautiful day and the facility raised \$505. Members of the Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club (pictured left) came out in support of the CPAFI cause.



Veterans from the Indiana Veteran Education and Transition (INVET) unit at the Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility celebrated Veterans Day through community service work. Thirteen resident veterans traveled to Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation homes in Indianapolis for an outside workday, raking leaves and removing limbs on the

properties, which house homeless and at-risk veterans. Meanwhile, eighteen residents signed over 225 Christmas cards bound for the "Holiday Mail for Heroes" program, sponsored by the American Red Cross. Every Christmas, the Red Cross hands out thousands of Christmas cards to active-duty service men and women overseas, including hospitalized service men and women. Other residents worked on the IREF grounds, improving the waterfall and pond in the recreation area.

American Legion dignitaries from around the state visited Wabash Valley Correctional Facility with a special mission, to visit the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit. The group, including Past National Commander Jim Koutz, spoke to offender Kevin Henry about the PLUS Memorial Quilts Program. Henry, himself a veteran, helped conceive the idea to create Memorial Quilts, presented to families of Indiana soldiers who lost their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Legionaries also talked about American Legion Post 398, set to open soon at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. (photo right)



The Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) held its inaugural PLUS graduation for 44 offenders. The graduation ceremony brought many honored guests to RCF including Senator Phil Boots, a member of the RCF Community Advisory Board, and IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, both of whom spoke to the graduates and attendees about the benefits of completing re-entry programming and the facts behind how this correlates to reducing recidivism. The ceremony included speeches by two PLUS graduates and musical performances by the RCF PLUS Choir.

Pendleton Correctional Facility American Legion Post 608 conducted a celebration in recognition of Veterans Day. Guests included American Legion State Commander Ed Trice, Past State Commander Dick Thomas, and several other Legion Representatives from the community. Offender member of Post 608 took part in recognizing our veterans and fallen soldiers. Family members of the offender legionnaires were permitted to attend the event and a delicious meal was prepared by Aramark. Commander Trice spoke to those in attendance and expressed his appreciation to the members of Post 608 for their continued donations to local charities and organizations. Commander Trice remarked that Indiana leads the nation with the most American Legion Posts located within correctional facilities.

Susan Eichhorn from the East Central Indiana Solid Waste District (ECISWD) visited the Correctional Industrial Facility to meet with staff and offenders in the garden and recycling programs. Ms. Eichhorn provided some shocking statistics such as 100 acres is needed for each landfill in Indiana and that landfills do not allow natural composting therefore the waste in a landfill will remain much longer than if recycled or composted. All of the information and other statistics helped everyone to see way recycling is so important. Ms. Eichhorn also brought in a baggie of worms and a baggie of soil to show that allowing the worms to recycle the food waste not only keeps the waste out of the landfills but also provides great soil for plants. Ms. Eichhorn can be reached at the ECISWD website [www.eciswd.org](http://www.eciswd.org) for more information.

Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) hosted the 2014 Experienced and Emerging Leadership Program graduation at the Correctional Training Institute. This is the seventh year

this program has been offered for IDOC Staff. Congratulations to the graduates of the 2013 EEL Cohort. Graduates include: Shelly Adams-Brown, Hilary Alderete, Jeffrey Bellaire, Michael Boone, Deborah Braun, Jason Brooks, Ryan Chandler, Roger Chapman, Andrew Cole, Lynette Collins, Michele David-Masley, Amy Eickmeier, Bravlio Eloiza, Elizabeth Fiato, Glenn Handzlik, Tiwanna House, Katherine Kinnaman, Casie Klepinger, Nathan Lagenour, Amy Kent, Frankie Littlejohn, Tracey McCabe, Terrill McNeal, John Poer, Jessica Rain, Isaac Randolph, Danielle Saunders, Lora Schmalfeldt, Kelli Searing, Noah Shelton, Christopher Tanis, Larita Thomas, Corey Webb, William Welch, Maranda Weliver, Charles Williams, and Matthew Worthman.



Indiana Women's Prison Assistant Superintendent LaShelle Turner and State Parole Agent Denise Jackson, a specialized agent supervising a gender-specific, female-only, caseload for the Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office, were invited to be presenters at the 2013 Indiana National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) State Conference themed "Women Partnering with Women." The prevailing theme of the entire conference was "The Battle is Not Over," presented by NAACP Women in partnership with Women of Excellence. Both also received a certificate of appreciation for their dedication and work in Indiana with Corrections and a standing ovation after the workshop presentations.

The Department hosted an IDOC reunion and luncheon at the Correctional Training Institute. Over 40 retired DOC staff members attended the reunion, which included a tour of the IDOC Reflections of Pride Museum. (photo right)

Offenders at the Westville Correctional Facility were invited to attend a special music presentation performed by the members of the Covenant Choir singing group from Goshen, IN. The Mennonite gospel singers gave two performances around the facility, shared their message of faith and hope and distributed reading material so offenders would experience their fellowship long after the group had departed. This is the group's 9th year coming to Westville. In total about 150 offenders elected to attend the concert.



The Grace College Theological Seminary held a graduation ceremony at the Indiana State Prison in the facility chapel. Fifty-four offenders were presented with their GED Certificates and 46 offenders received Career Technical Certificates in Culinary Arts. Dr. John Teevan, Executive Directive of the Weber School, Grace College, opened the ceremony with the students by stating the school has been working with the Indiana State Prison since 1986. This has been a record setting year assisting the offender population with completing their GED.



Superintendent Dushan Zatecky is pleased to report that PCF Case Manager Rick Shannon (pictured left) has been promoted to the position of Unit Manager. Mr. Shannon's promotion is effective November 24. Everyone at the facility would like to express congratulations to Rick and wish him well in his new position.

Several area high school and college students have been touring Miami Correctional Facility and attending Straight Talk Programs this month and last. More than 200 students have visited the correctional facility this fall, learning more about corrections and the negatives of prison life from the offenders. Students are coming in from as far away as South Bend and Monon, Indiana. Just this week alone, there were three groups of students, 66 students total, entering the facility from Kokomo and Wabash.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) PLUS programs recent Papa John's fundraiser raised an amazing \$2047. Programs inside the facility that will be helped by this fundraiser include several sewing projects in the PLUS Unit including material for wheelchair cushions and funding to help proceed with establishing an American Legion post at the facility. Due to the recent typhoon disaster in the Philippines, a donation will also be made to the Samaritan's Purse - Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund. Samaritan's Purse is a non-denominational evangelical Christian International Relief organization based in Boone, North Carolina. More information on the relief effort and donations can be made at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).

The Kairos Prison Ministry Organization concluded a four day program at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Forty-one offenders participated in the event that included involvement by forty-five Kairos volunteers. The recent event marked the 13th time the four day program has been conducted at PCF.