

# IDOC Leadership Share Promising Practices

## Media Contact:

Department of Correction

Java Ahmed

(317) 234-1693

E-mail: [jahmed@doc.in.gov](mailto:jahmed@doc.in.gov)

Conferences like this allow information sharing in a consistent manner, while including innovative ideas for the future."

Commissioner J. David Donahue

Madison, Indiana - (May 3 , 2007) - Today ended a three-day Superintendents/Supervisors Conference hosted by the Department of Correction at Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, Indiana. The conference was attended by facility Superintendents, Parole Supervisors, the Department's Division Directors, Executive Staff and guest speakers.

"Improving communication throughout the agency is vital as we manage our business and processes," said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "Conferences like this allow information sharing in a consistent manner, while including innovative ideas for the future."

The conference included a two-day planning session to discuss the fundamentals of corrections, measuring outcomes and re-entry accountability. The Department's Deputy Commissioners and Division Directors addressed DOC top management topics, including HR Performance Expectations, Re-entry Accountability Plans, Probation and Parole, Fleet Management and Sex Offender Management and Staff Training & Development.

Commissioner J. David Donahue addressed the Department's leaders with key messages for managing the Department while focusing on the 2007-08 strategic plan goals.

Keynote presentations shared by the inter-agency leadership staff included: Ethics Training by Inspector General Dave Thomas; Strengthening Agency Relations by Department of Natural Resources, Director Rob Carter; Relationship Building by Andrew Penca, Commissioner of Workforce Development; and partnering with Probation, presented by Eric Zimmerman, Allen County Chief Probation Officer.

Commissioner Penca expressed his commitment to partnering with the Department of Correction and brokering employment opportunities to help create a successful re-entry roadmap for offenders completing their confinement. "We need to focus on attraction, expansion and retention for successful re-entry," he said.

On the final day of the conference, the three Deputy Commissioners: Cecil Davis, Bruce Lemmon and Julie von Arx, held breakout sessions to update the agency leaders pertaining to the functional areas of excellence in corrections.

"Every day is a training opportunity," said Commissioner J. David Donahue. "The most important asset we have is our staff, and we will continue to focus on attracting, training and retaining talented individuals at this agency. Professional development is on the radar screen this year and employees are very excited about the training opportunities."

Over the two years, the employees of the Department have collectively raised the bar of correctional services in Indiana, and have started to measure these successes." concluded Donahue. "We will continue to work with a sense of urgency."

### **About The Department of Correction**

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.