



MEDIA RELEASE  
Rockville Correctional Facility  
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*For Immediate Release*

### **Building Maintenance, Changing Lives at RCF**

Rockville, Indiana - (July 6, 2015) – The Building Maintenance classroom at the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) resembles many vocational programs of the same title throughout academia with its array of building materials and power tools. The significant difference at Rockville is that the students therein are female offenders serving time at RCF.

The Building Maintenance program at RCF is instructed by Don Kuk of Oakland City University, which has the IDOC contract for educational classes including Business Technology, Culinary Arts, Cosmetology and TASC (Test of Adult Secondary Completion), formerly GED. Building Maintenance program goals include more than the obvious business of teaching carpentry, the basics of plumbing, electrical and framing. The students at RCF learn collaboration, teamwork, pride in their work and job responsibility. Once the offenders complete the 350 hour program which includes 10 hours of OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) training, they could earn 90 days of earned credit time.

Most recently, the participants completed several woodworking and construction projects such as the strawberry pyramid, mailboxes, wishing well, Adirondack chair, ottoman and table as well as a bookshelf boat (pictured). The completion of these projects means more than just a completion certificate to the offenders at RCF. It means the ability to build a better life for themselves and their families upon release. It means a skill to build on, a future of success.

The Building Maintenance projects are creating such a buzz with RCF staff that many requests have been made for more mailboxes and the students will soon begin assisting with facility improvement ventures including renovating the former greenhouse into a mower shed. Future woodworking projects will likely be used to raise money for various community organizations.

Mr. Kuk expressed his pride in the hard work and dedication of his current group of 19 students when he said, "It's great to see them learn these new skills and put them to use, but to see them collaborate and work with each other despite personality conflicts is an even greater thrill."



Current Building Maintenance participants front row from left to right:



Adirondack chair, ottoman and tables



Mailboxes



Strawberry pyramid



Wishing well



Bookshelf boat in the process of being stained with a distressed/antiqued finish

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