



#### WESTVILLE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Eric J. Holcomb  
Governor

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### Westville Correctional Facility Garden Donates to Area Missions

Westville, Indiana – (August 31, 2017) – Five years ago, the facility began cultivating gardens with the intent of donating the produce to area food pantries in the community. A great deal of effort, and learning went into the experience that quickly became dedication. The operation has since grown creating both pride and envy for the staff and offenders who so diligently weed, care for and cultivate the vegetables. The early gardens were comprised of typical vegetables such as zucchini, green peppers, banana peppers, tomatoes, cucumber and potatoes. Since then, the list has grown to include, four types of squash, egg plant, cabbage, lettuce, watermelon, pumpkin, and Brussels sprouts. The total different types of vegetables grown in the gardens have risen to 16. There are six gardens in the facility, with each growing different vegetables. The crop produced in each garden is rotated every year to grow different produce. The running total for this growing season is 3,087.6 pounds donated to six area food pantries and the Salvation Army. On average, each location receives 514.6 pounds of vegetables. This season, among one of the more modest years of production, still has time to increase those totals. Warden Sevier stated, “It is amazing to see the unity and camaraderie these gardens have created between staff and offender alike. Contributing to the community in this manner creates a good-will that is contagious.”



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**About Westville Correctional Facility:**

Westville Correctional Facility was converted from a state mental health hospital to a prison in 1977. It is situated on over 200 acres in La Porte County and contains minimum, medium and maximum security units. Nearly 3400 offenders are housed at WCC, and over 2400 are returned to the community annually from WCC.

**About the Indiana Department of Correction:**

The Department employs over 7,000 employees and houses 29,000 adult and juveniles in 28 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers.

The Department's internet home page can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/idoc>.

The Department's Re-Entry Site can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/reentry>.

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