

Warden's Report
April 2023

Warden Laura Williams reported the following:

Infectious Disease Update:

On November 29, 2022, the CDC revised the previous guidance for congregate settings to include homeless service sites and correctional and detention facilities. Delaware County has reduced to a “low” transmission rate, recommendations by the CDC continue to be followed. Donning of masks remains optional within the facility. Masks are always available as it is strongly recommended that they are worn by staff and the incarcerated population in Intake, on Intake housing units and in the medical unit.

There were 55 incarcerated persons tested utilizing PCR tests in March with 1 positive infection. The total vaccination rate is 56% among the incarcerated population. The facility did not host any vaccination clinics during the month of March. There were no staff members out with COVID. There were no confirmed or suspected cases of Monkeypox within the institution.

Monthly Statistics –March 2023:

- Current population: 1,293 incarcerated persons (an increase of 28 since last month)
- There were 70 Weekender participants in March
- 13 out of the 70 were “first timers”
- 3 were female
- Total commitments in March: 552
- Total discharges in February: 557
- There were few instances when full recreation was not provided
- 3/10/23 1st Shift – Unit 7 for shakedown
- 3/10/23 2nd Shift – 7B for shakedown
- 3/14/23 2nd Shift – Full facility due to power outages from high winds
- 3/23/23 2nd Shift – suspended recreation during 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM for memorial services of a fallen officer

Between the dates of 3/1/23-3/31/23:

- There were 12,536 video visits that were completed on the housing blocks (last month was 6,766).

Major Incidences:

Major incidences were reported during the February and March meetings. On February 12, 2023, there was a facility death that was ruled a homicide resulting from an incident that occurred prior to the individual’s commitment to the facility. There was a death by suicide in the manner of a hanging on March 23, 2023.

Employee of the Month:

Warden Williams has been accepting nominations for employees of the month and awarding 2 employees with recognition each month. Incentives include parking in the employee of the month designated space, recognition amongst staff and a certificate. There were 4 employees during the month of April selected: Lieutenant Tyrance Moore; Training Instructor, Tamika Bennett; Correctional Officer Augustine Sieh and Correctional Officer Abdelkader Sadouki.

- Employee of the year: Correctional Officer, Kevin Regan
- Supervisor of the year: Director of Records and Booking, Mike Root.

EOW – Officer Kevin Regan 3/16/2023:

Officer Kevin Regan suddenly passed away on March 16th. Officer Regan was an Army Veteran and had worked at George W. Hill Correctional Facility since April 8, 2002. Officer Regan had dedicated nearly 21 years of service to the safety of Delaware County. He worked in many different positions in the facility and served as a member of the Executive Board for DCPIEU, fiercely advocating for his fellow officer.

Training Academy and Staffing:

On Friday, March 17th a class of 14 Correctional Officers and 1 Sergeant were honored and sworn in as they completed their Training Academy. A new class began on April 3rd consisting of Correctional Officers and Healthcare Staff. The next class begins on May 1st with another class beginning on May 29, 2023.

One Year Anniversary of Transition Day:

George W. Hill Correctional Facility celebrated the one-year anniversary of transition day on April 6th. The following 14 employees were recognized with Mission/Core Value awards: Integrity - Correctional Officer Abdelkader Sadouki; Courage - Correctional Officer Karim Clement; Ethics - Lieutenant Kerry Platt; Honor - Sergeant Zackary Serody; Respect - Lieutenant Jesse Moody; Service – Correctional Officer Velma Hilton; Duty – Correctional Officer Fred Pascale; Professionalism – Receptionist Margaret Yates; Innovation – Program & Reentry Administrator, Kelly Shaw; Transparency – Investigator George Rhoades; Accountability – Records Technician Courtney Nardone; Sustainability – Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Nina Chychula; Equity – Education and Workforce Development Administrator, Joan Skurski; Correctional Excellence – Lieutenant Jared McCafferty.

Seeking Additional Employees:

George W. Hill is seeking to fill vacant full-time positions as soon as possible:

Security Personnel:

- Correctional Officer
- Sergeants
- Captain
- Intelligence Analyst
- Investigator

- Locksmith
- Sanitation Crewman

Programs & Support:

- Case Manager
- Substance Abuse Counselor
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Wellness Instructor

Administration:

- Chief Deputy Warden
- Deputy Warden of Security & Training Operations
- Contract Compliance Manager

Human Resources:

- Labor Relations Generalist
- Leave Administrator

Records and Booking:

- Booking Clerk

Cost Recovery Items –March 2023

Processing Fee	\$23,083.07	\$64,414.40
Damage to Prison Property	\$888.13	\$1,591.97
Medical Visits	\$698.51	\$2,032.24
Postage	\$1.74	\$1.74
Total Funds Recovered	\$24,671.45	\$68,040.35
Deposited to Inmate Welfare (under \$1.00)	\$5.45	\$12.76

Goal Setting for 2023:

Employment/Staffing:

- Increase retention/decrease attrition
- Reduce vacancy rates
- Continue investment in professional development
- Development of on-boarding and training for “non-security “roles
- Cross training opportunities with other county jail facilities

Facility:

- Kitchen renovation
- Replace the Roof/HVAC system
- Enhanced lighting
- Updated staff dining facilities
- Replace laundry equipment
- Development of Training/Firearms

Technology:

- Full implementation of PowerDMS
- Establishment of Wi-Fi infrastructure in the facility for enhance technology and efficiency of process
- Executing a contract with Guardian RFID and implementing facility side use of monitoring technology
- Convert the grievance proves on tablets for functionality
- Convert commissary ordering to tablets
- Body scanner
- Camera surveillance

Population:

- Increase program availability and access to recreation equipment during out of cell time

Budget:

- Increase sustainability by finding alternative funding/revenue sources to support program expansion as well as operational needs

Programs/Services:

- Increase services for youthful offenders
- Increase psychoeducation to include parenting, relationships, job readiness, life skills (i.e. banking, interviewing)
- Increase partnerships with local universities
- Increased community engagement and stakeholders for ease of re-entry and re-integration

Training:

- Increase partnerships with other field of corrections leaders
- Increase utilization of APEX Virtual Reality Simulator and embed in annual in-service training
- Enhance the documentation/tracking/control of all completed trainings
- Increase certifications throughout a multitude of job classifications

2023 Goal Progress:

- Increase partnerships with other field of corrections leaders
- Currently participating in a voluntary Bureau of Justice Statistics National Survey from April 10 – April 14th
- It has IRB approval (NIS-4 Jails, Project Number 6644)
- There are 7 surveyors/researchers on site to conduct surveys

Technology:

- Body Scanner
- Site survey was completed
- Training will be scheduled with the organization
- A camera is being added to the space and moving forward with installation

Camera Surveillance:

- Nearing 100% completion of the drawings and have continued to engage multiple vendors in demonstrations to experience the technology of the camera and corresponding software. Motion made by Controller Phillips to recommend that Council advertise bids for the Security Systems Project, seconded by Mr. Corson. Motion carried unanimously.

Facility:

- Kitchen Renovation
- Had kickoff meeting with Bernandon. The development of schematics, designs and projected costs are anticipated to be developed by Mid-June. The Jail Oversight Board will continue to be engaged.

Aramark Commissary Update:

Warden Williams and her team have worked collaboratively with the organization to increase the menu items. There were 100 new items added to the menu. Prices have increased due to rates of inflation and increases in Consumer Price Index (CPI). This is allowable by contract. Menu will be enacted and made available to the incarcerated population. Pricing was shared with the JOB. Motion made by Mr. Corson to adopt the Tier 4 pricing for commissary, seconded by Judge Amoroso. Motion carried unanimously.

Aramark Dietary Update:

Warden Williams has worked collaboratively and in partnership with Aramark to adopt a “Heart Healthy” menu for the entire I/P population. The dietary change will allow for increased vegetables and fruit, as well as ensuring recommendations for protein are provided and consistent with dietary standards. Discussions have addressed necessary increases in price per tray due to rates of inflation and increases in CPI (Consumer Price Index). Current cost per meal is \$1.442. Transition to heart healthy meal with 3 oz of protein is \$1.680. This will be sustained within the operational budget while improving the quality of meals.

Quarter Review Highlights:

- There has been an increase of In-person education with DCIU teachers for the Youthful Population. During the week they cover English, Language Arts, Mathematics and Sciences from 4:30 PM and 6:30 PM. Warden Williams thanked Bob Gallop, Matthew White and his team of dedicated teachers from the DCIU.
- Ramadan Fast began on Wednesday, March 22nd at sunset and ends on Thursday, April 20th at sunset. Currently there are 195 incarcerated persons participating in the Ramadan Fast.
- On April 10th, the sacrament of Reconciliation and Easter Mass with Saint Thomas and Father Stephen Shott was completed.

Education Programs:

GED Passing rate for the quarter is 68%. The GED Program continues to achieve. There were 6 GEDs earned in the month of March.

Flagger Training:

There were 30 incarcerated persons who earned a Flagger Training certificate in March. The Flagger certificate is accepted by Penndot and enhances the application process for a public roadway position in Pennsylvania.

Spartan Chemicals:

There were 30 I/Ps certified in Clean Safe through Spartan Chemicals in March.

Anger Management:

There were 47 I/Ps who had completed Anger Management in March.

Religious Services:

There were 824 I/Ps who attended Religious Services during the month of March. There were 3 Pastoral Visits; there were 38 individuals attending Religious In-Person services.

Wellpath:

Hired a new MAT coordinator, MAT Clinician Dimitri James.

Case Management:

Filled Case Management positions.

Programs:

- Developed partnership with Delaware County League of Women's Voters for municipality election.
- Developed partnership with Delaware County Foundation for a Fatherhood Program.
- Electronic submissions for Request of Information and Grievances.

Programs and Reentry Administrator Kelly Shaw mentioned that on March 28th Child & Family Focus Organization began facilitating Life Skills Transitions, a 6-week course with the juvenile population. The course is designed to help youth navigate the transition to adulthood. Sessions build skills in goal setting, managing time and money and building healthy relationships. Friday, March 31st the Law Library offered a Notary Clinic to provide an extra opportunity for those seeking a Power of Attorney Notarization for tax filing purposes. Ms. Shaw thanked Law Librarian Dana Keith for identifying the need and expediting a solution.

Path Stone Corporation will be facilitating one on one sessions with young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 during the month of April. The individual sessions will focus on resume building, job placement, vocational opportunities, and continued education. Upon release, Path Stone will continue services at no cost. The partnership with Path Stone Corporation will provide career and workforce development opportunities for incarcerated young adults who are not sentenced.