

Warden's Report  
May 2022

Warden Laura Williams reported the following:

Coronavirus Update:

Masking requirements continue for all staff and visitors while working within the facility. Masks are provided to the incarcerated population as well. There were 201 incarcerated persons were tested utilizing PCR tests in April. There were 0 positive infections. There were 2 staff members who had tested positive, however there are no staff members currently diagnosed with COVID-19. There were no vaccinations conducted during the month of April.

Training Academy:

Last week was National Correctional Employees week. Since the transition, there have been two graduation ceremonies recognizing the achievements and completion of training for classes 0222, 0322 and 0322-D. A new cadet academy began on 5/9 with 8 anticipated graduates on 6/3. The next academy will begin on Monday, June 6. Recreation was provided during the month of April for each shift on every unit, excluding a unit that had a major incident.

Staffing Updates:

Promotional opportunities were extended for staff to fill vacant positions. After 20 qualified staff were interviewed the committee selected individuals who embody agency values, provide solution-focused ideas, and are innovative in the way that they approach the field of corrections. There were 2 promotions to Lieutenant, 4 promotions to Sergeant, including 2 additional offers extended.

Current Population: 1,257

County Males: 1,123

County Females: 134

Lodgers: 146

Total commitments in April: 448

Total discharges in April: 541

Weekenders Program is revoked from April 5<sup>th</sup> – July 21<sup>st</sup>

Major Incidents:

On Friday, 4/22 there was a sentinel event on housing unit 10A. There is an active and open investigation regarding this event.

Maintenance Update:

Unit 2 remains closed. A new maintenance director was onboarded and is working to familiarize himself to facility needs and project management.

Education Programs:

There were 22 students enrolled in GED preparation class in April. There were 18 GED tests administered. There were 3 GED's earned, bringing the year-to-date total to 15.

#### Behavioral Health Update:

There were 70 referrals to inpatient treatment in April. There were 128 dosages of Naloxone distributed. There were 9 incarcerated persons awaiting 402 orders. There were 9 incarcerated persons awaiting transfer to Norristown State Hospital. There were 3 individuals on the diversion wait list.

#### Treatment Programs:

There were 42 participants in PREP I and there were 11 participants in PREP II. There were 19 newly enrolled participants in April.

#### Thresholds:

In April, there were 13 participants enrolled in Thresholds with 6 completions. There were 5 newly enrolled residents. Thresholds is a six-step program, that serves both men and women with a seven-week decision making program organized into six complementary Micro (teacher-client) meetings in the Visitation Room

#### Law Library:

The Law Library provides leisure books, preprinted petitions to the courts, updated books, and treatises (Federal, State and Local Standards), legal search engine (Lexis Nexis) and voter registration materials. There were 223 residents who had requested Law Library service in April. There were 120 attendees/18 notary services and 3 residents for satellite services.

#### Wellness:

Ms. Shaw announced that Wellness Instructor, Gregory Beading had just returned from deployment on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Greg is currently working with the juvenile population on a daily basis. The Wellness Program will extend to the adult male and female population within the month.

#### Reentry:

In April, there were 10 sentenced incarcerated persons released. All 10 individuals accepted Reentry service and received an individualized resource packet. Ms. Shaw mentioned that service provider Education Data System Inc. (EDSI) is a nonprofit, workforce development and consultant organization that will provide job readiness workshops to the population. EDSI staff had completed volunteer training last week and will develop job readiness workshops within the month.

#### ViaPath Update:

There were 421 video visits scheduled in April. There were 381 in-person visits. Video Visits continue to remain free of charge. Video Visits and in-person visits must be scheduled online, 2 days in advance/no more than 7 days in advance. In-person visits will be conducted between 12:30 pm and 8:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. Video visits will be available between 9 am and 12 pm.

#### Tablet 1:1 Ratio Expansion Update:

Onsite field assessment begins next week. The full inventory of tablets are on site. Half of the rolling charging carts are in route. Ms. Shaw meets with Viapath Project Manager bi-weekly to verify progress. To ensure IT compacity all staff training will begin the first week of June, to include external mail scan training. External mail scan will begin Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. All personal mail such as letters, drawings, and pictures will be digitally delivered to the population. Notification of the new process will be posted on the George W. Hill Correctional Facility website by the weeks end. Email blasts of the external mail scan procedure and start date will be sent via Gettingout.com at the 30- and 15-day mark. Ms. Shaw advised that Gettingout.com serves as a portal for depositing funds for

friends and family to send messages to the population. Viapath educational materials are on site and will be distributed to the population at the 30-day mark. First, the population must have the opportunity to access the tablet, then the external mail scan may be implemented.