



For Immediate Release

Governor Daniels Honors Graduates of Prison Substance Abuse Programs

Rockville, Indiana (June 11, 2010) – On Thursday, 28 female offenders from the Rockville Correctional Facility were recognized at a graduation ceremony for the facility’s CLIFF (Clean Lifestyles Is Freedom Forever) and WHAT (Willingness, Honesty, Acceptance, and Trust) programs. The graduates are part of a voluntary drug recovery program that focuses on offenders whose lives are impaired by methamphetamine addiction.

Governor Mitch Daniels was on hand to present the commencement address. In his speech, Daniels expressed how proud he is of the CLIFF program and of the brave women who, by choosing to successfully complete the program, have increased their chances at a successful future. The Governor also reflected on his encounters with Indiana’s meth problem during his first campaign for Governor and how it encouraged him to make the issue one of his first initiatives when he took office by establishing the Meth Free Indiana Coalition. The CLIFF program was one part of that initiative.



Governor Daniels speaks with the graduates following the ceremony.

Both before and after the ceremony, the Governor took the time to individually meet with the graduates and give words of encouragement. After the certificates of completion were handed out, offenders from the graduating class shared heart-felt poems and song.

Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Edwin G. Buss spoke about the impacted that methamphetamine has had on Indiana in recent years, and commended Governor Daniels’ leadership in combating Indiana’s meth problem through programs such as CLIFF, one of the first of its kind in any correctional facility in the nation.

“The continued success of the CLIFF program stems from the hard work and dedication of offenders who want to improve their lives and the staff who guide them in that journey,” remarked Commissioner Buss. “It has been proven that these programs make a considerable difference in an offender’s rehabilitation, and especially upon the lives of those afflicted with such a serious problem as meth addiction.”

Following the graduation, CLIFF Program Director Leslie Myers and Correctional Sergeant Roger Chapman received Commissioner Coins for their contributions and work with the offenders in the program.

The CLIFF unit at Rockville first opened in September 2005. Since then, 404 offenders have successfully completed the program. CLIFF units are also located at Miami, Putnamville, and Logansport Juvenile Correctional facilities.

A film crew from the Oprah Winfrey Network has recently been filming a documentary about the women incarcerated at Rockville, with a special interest in the CLIFF program.

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