

September 27, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) donated \$8,419 to the Kilo Memorial Fund. The donation will be used to support the Indiana State Police (ISP) K-9 program. The funds were raised by both staff and offenders through various prison programs and fundraising events. IDOC Deputy Commissioners, James Basinger and Amanda Copeland, presented Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter with the check. (pictured below) Indiana State Police K-9 "Kilo" was killed in the line of duty on June 24, 2013 while searching for an armed suspect in Sellersburg, IN. The ISP Alliance set up a memorial fund in honor of the slain K-9 hero.



IDOC Director of Community-based Programs and Transitional Facilities Michael Lloyd and Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) Assistant Superintendent Dalton Haney participated in an Indiana Access to Recovery sponsored panel discussion about how to serve ex-offenders and ways to prepare them for successful return to the community. Panel members included Senator Greg Taylor, coauthor of the Indiana Expungement Bill; Dr. Willie Jenkins, Reentry Administrator for the Office of Mayor Greg Ballard; Rhiannon Edwards, Executive Director for Public Advocates in Community Reentry (PACE); Jeff Yanis, Program Coordinator for the Marion County Alternative Court; Jerome Davis, ex-offender with X-tremely for Christ Ministry, and other reentry service providers.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) hosted a very successful Flu Shot Clinic sponsored by Kroger Pharmacy. 45 staff from IWP and local parole district offices PD 1 and PD 3 took advantage of getting their yearly flu shot free of charge along with a participation prize. Several staff commented that they were happy to see the facility taking a front line interest in the well being of its employees and thanked Superintendent Steve McCauley for allowing the Kroger Pharmacy to come to IWP. (see photo left)

The Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility has donated over 1300 pounds of vegetables to the Noble County Food Bank. The offenders, who are Master Gardeners graduates, delivered pumpkins, potatoes, cantaloupe, tomatoes, peppers, cumpers, and squash to the local food bank since early July. Offenders also participated in a food sale from Pizza Hut with the proceeds going to the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Wee Ones Nursery program.

Camp Summit Boot Camp staff and students took part in Salvation Army's (SA) "Stuff a Bus", assisting Salvation Army staff and volunteers in collecting food donations from the public. The "Stuff a Bus" program is an annual food drive conducted by SA to stock their food pantries for the upcoming holidays and to supply food to the Homeless Shelter the SA runs. All items collected will eventually end up feeding needy LaPorte County families and residents. (see photo right)

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) hosted a Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) graduation. State Representative Dr. Vernon Smith, volunteers, ISP administrators, and family and friends came to the facility to show support and encouragement for the 52 offenders who received their certificate for completing this program. Testimonials were given by two of the graduates, Vaughn Reeves and Adam Rodgers. Both men spoke about how the program has changed their lives. The PLUS program gave them the tools to have a winning attitude and take strides toward rehabilitation.

In conjunction with the Otterbein United Methodist Church, the Rockville Correctional Facility PLUS Unit made 100 small stuffed animals to be included in shoeboxes that are given to children in third world countries. The shoeboxes packed by the church include additional items including: writing and coloring utensils, pads of paper, books, toys, jump ropes, harmonicas, hygiene items, clothing, flashlights, and extra batteries. The Otterbein United Methodist Church indicates that since 1993 over 100 million shoebox gifts have been distributed to needy children around the world. (see photo left)

Pendleton Correctional Facility Chaplain Matthew Peterson was ordained during a ceremony conducted at the Southport Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Chaplain Peterson received his Master of Divinity Degree from the Christian Theological Seminary on May 18, 2013. Chaplain Peterson came to PCF in August of 2011 to participate in an Internship Program and was appointed to a Chaplain's position on November 27, 2011. Congratulations Chaplain Peterson!

Auditors from the American Correctional Association (ACA) completed their audit of the New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF), recommending the facility for reaccreditation. This is the third consecutive time NCCF has received a perfect rating on an ACA audit, receiving 100% compliance for both the mandatory and non-mandatory standards.





It was a bittersweet day at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) as staff said goodbye and good luck to Corizon Health Services Administrator Marla Gadberry. Marla has been part of the WVCF medical team on and off since 1994, as an LPN, RN, Infirmiry Charge Nurse and Health Service Administrator. Marla is taking her immense medical and administrative skills to Florida, serving as Corizon Regional Director of Nursing. Superintendent Brown noted Marla (pictured left) was featured in the 2000 Discovery Channel series, "Supermax".

Miami Correctional Facility's (MCF) Wellness Committee met for the first time to discuss ideas to help its employees live Healthier Lifestyles. In the works are an MCF

Goes PINK Day in October to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to support the fight against all cancers; and possibly a Heart Healthy lifestyle challenge next year.

The medical staff at the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) would like to honor Ms. Julie Murphy, RN, IWP Health Service Administrator on being a 2013 Corizon Nursing Award & Recognition Program Nominee. Ms. Murphy received a certificate and small appreciation gift from the Corizon Nursing Leadership Council this August. The IWP medical staff celebrate Ms. Murphy's passion for the correctional nursing practice and thank her for her service!

Six residents from IREF's Straight Talk program made several visits to Ben Davis High School Ninth Grade Center (NGC) to speak with the school's 1,300 ninth graders about making positive choices. The residents discussed the hardships and drawbacks of incarceration, and how their negative choices affected their lives as well as the lives of their families and loved ones. The group also talked about the repercussion of using illegal drugs, gangs and violence, and negative choices. Students and teachers packed the gymnasium to hear the presentations and participate in a Q&A session. The IREF Straight Talk program was a part of Ben Davis' Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) efforts to educate students, parents, and teachers about current violence and drug trends as well as signs and symptoms of violence and drug use among teens. (see photo right)



Staff Development and Training facilitated a two-day Management Retreat at IREF. Nine IREF Department Heads attended this program that included Managing a Multi-generational Workforce, Motivation, Coaching Subordinates, Building Trust, and Organizational Change interactive training program.



The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) had a visit from Mike Bryson, HIV Education Risk Coordinator, and William Tinsley, Community Liaison, from the Ryan White HIV Services Program. The duo spoke to 30 offenders attending the seminar on HIV, AIDS and Hepatitis C on how transmission happens, how to avoid becoming infected and where to go once released if they would like to be tested. The offenders asked numerous questions and the information given helped to straighten out many misconceptions.

Westville Correctional Facility welcomed guest speaker Professor James Hoffman, who shared his expertise in credit card traps and loan scams with offenders in the

facility's Financial Peace program. Mr. Hoffman, an economics instructor at Valparaiso University, showed the class the impact careless credit card decisions have on personal finances. He explained to the class that financial institutions prey on people with less than perfect or no credit and presented techniques on how to avoid such traps.

Superintendent Stan Knight and staff at the Putnamville Correctional Facility congratulate Raymond Elmore, Angelo Sauro, Perry Ward, Kenneth Lowe and Gordon Bowling on their recent promotions to Correctional Sergeant.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation for students of the PLUS unit. This is the unit's 28th graduation ceremony and celebration. Each graduating student completed over 100 hours of PLUS programming and as a group accumulated 150 hours of community service during the 12 week program. The program has maintained a vegetable garden with its end results producing a yield close to 260 lbs of produce that has been donated to the Emmaus Mission Center.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center hosted groups from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and Franklin College. Jail officers and students from a corrections class toured the facility and learned about the DOC intake process.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility held a successful Job Fair that attracted 38 applicants for the positions of Correctional Officer Trainee. Applicants were able to view a PowerPoint presentation about the facility and assistance was provided with the online application process. A job shadowing tour was conducted for qualified applicants.

The IWP Recreation Department has been conducting a very successful Extreme Workout program for offenders. Extreme Workout is a high intensity cardio workout program that meets for one hour and fifteen minutes, three days a week for 14 weeks. The workout out is aimed at those who are serious about exercise and utilizes the popular "Insanity" DVD work outs, as well as, other high impact/high intensity exercises. Each session consists of 60 offenders and five instructors. Offenders have reaped in the rewards, with much weight loss, toner physiques, more energy and higher self esteem.

