

ROGER WERHOLTZ | Budget Issues

Coping with Challenges and Changes in Fiscal Year 2010

One year ago state agencies were preparing to begin Fiscal Year 2009. Budgets for 2009 had been approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, and already we knew that we would need to be taking steps quickly to reduce expenditures for 2009



due to the rapidly deteriorating national and international economies.

I knew at that point that the only way the Department of Corrections would be able to successfully manage the magnitude of the cuts that were being discussed even then would be with the level of professionalism and dedication consistently demonstrated by the staff of our Department. We had no idea at that time that the operations of the

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Department of Corrections would resemble what they do now as we approach the beginning of Fiscal Year 2010.

We have suspended operations of the minimum-security units at Osawatimie, Toronto, Stockton and El Dorado. We have cancelled the contracts for operations of the Labette Correctional Conservation Camps at Oswego. We have cancelled the contracts for day reporting centers and community residential beds for parolees in Wichita,

Topeka and Kansas City. We have dramatically reduced programs for both inmates and offenders under supervision in the communities. In total, we have reduced our budget by more than \$20 million in the past year.

We also discussed scenarios that would have involved the closure in FY 2009 of the Winfield Correctional Facility, the Norton Correctional Facility, or even the Hutchinson Correctional Facility, depending on how much funding had to be cut and how quickly we could take the actions to achieve those reductions.

This has been the most challenging and stressful year I can remember since I began my service with the Department. Based upon the discussions I have had with staff in each of the divisions and at all levels of the organization, it has been as challenging and stressful as well.

The bad news is that we most likely have more programs and services that we will have to reduce or eliminate over the course of the next year in order to meet the reduced revenues. The good news is that we have some of the most outstanding people in this state working together to help us pursue our vision of "A Safer Kansas Through Effective Correctional Services."

Victim Services Earns High Marks for Work

Victims of crime are finding the support they need from the Kansas Department of Corrections, according to a recent survey conducted by the Department's Office of Victim Services (OVS).

More than 90 percent of survey respondents reported a high level of satisfaction with the quality and delivery of services provided by the OVS. The survey, conducted in the first quarter of 2009, was the first of its kind completed by the OVS since the office was established in 2001.

The OVS serves as a liaison between victims and Department of Corrections staff, the Kansas Parole Board and victim service providers. Among its activities, the OVS pro-

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SURVEY: OVS EARNS HIGH MARKS

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vides written notification to registered crime victims regarding an offender’s status change and assist victims before, during and after parole board public comment sessions.



“I will always be grateful to the KDOC employees for the fantastic help and assistance they gave me during that time before (the) parole hearing,” a respondent wrote. “I just hope they are still there in 10 more years...”

The random sample of crime victims provided feedback on several aspects of the OVS including notification services, the types of contact between victims of crime and staff and the quality of service delivery. The survey also asked crime victims about the use of resources offered by the OVS including specific informational brochures, the OVS website, toll-free number: (866) 404-6732 and the OVS’ quarterly newsletter. Among the

survey’s major findings:

- Slightly more than 90 percent responded that they felt they were treated with respect and that they believe the OVS provides a valuable service to victims of crime
- More than 84 percent indicated that they received prompt assistance, were given thorough explanations and that they received the information or support needed from the OVS.

One respondent reported being glad to be receiving notification of an offender’s status even after 11 years.

GIVING KANSAS CRIME VICTIMS A VOICE IN CORRECTIONS BY PROVIDING INFORMATION, SERVICES AND SUPPORT WITH COMPASSION AND RESPECT.

Ninety-one percent of respondents reported receiving written notification from the OVS. However, only 39 percent of victims initiated phone contact with the OVS following receipt of a notification letter.

Phone contact was identified as the

most common method of communication between victims and the OVS, followed by face-to-face meetings and then e-mails.

The OVS notification brochure and the toll-free number were the most commonly used resource materials.

“I think you all do a wonderful job,” wrote one respondent. “Now that I know my rights and have a number to call I feel much safer and more confident.”

Aside from demonstrating the need for the continuation of services to crime victims, the survey results will

assist the OVS in establishing priorities for improving services and creating new services.

The OVS expressed gratitude to the survey’s respondents for providing valuable information that will shape the future of the OVS.

To learn more about the OVS, please visit: www.doc.ks.gov/victim-services.

FALLEN OFFICERS ADDED TO THE KANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL

Three Kansas officers who died in the line of duty were honored by Governor Mark Parkinson and Attorney General Steve Six during the 27th annual Kansas Law Enforcement Memorial ceremony held June 5.

Those added to the memorial located on the grounds of the state capitol were:

- City Marshal A.A. Wilson of Sedan, Kan., who was shot and killed in 1899 while trying to serve an arrest warrant for horse stealing;

- Jimmie Allen Barnett, a Santa Fe Railroad special agent, who was struck by a train near Wichita Union Station in 1975; and,
- Vernon L. Holzer, a Santa Fe Railroad special officer, who was fatally shot in 1923 while guarding a train leaving Wichita for Arkansas City.

Dedicated in 1986, the Kansas Law Enforcement Memorial contains the names of 262 police officers.



Four Named Department of Corrections' Best

Governor honors KDOC employees and volunteers

Lansing Correctional Facility Information Consultant Harold Sass helped replace paper log books with web-based electronic logbooks. El Dorado Correctional Facility Lt. Maria Bos improved the facility's disciplinary division's paper efficiency by 40 percent.

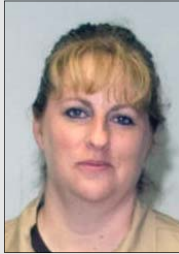
Often outside the public's view, Kansas Department of Corrections employees and volunteers each strive to do their part to fulfill the Department's vision of making Kansas safer.

Governor Mark Parkinson and Kansas Secretary of Corrections Roger Werholtz honored Department of Corrections employees and volunteers for their service to the State of Kansas during an awards ceremony held at the State Capitol in May. In announcing the four recipients of the Department's 2009 Employee and Volunteer of the Year awards, Governor Parkinson thanked all Department employees for their commitment to ensuring public safety.

Those receiving special recognition were:

- The 2009 Uniformed Employee of the Year - Lt. Maria Bos, a Corrections Specialist II, El Dorado Correctional Facility;
 - The 2009 Non-Uniformed Employee of the Year - Harold Sass, an Information Consultant III, Lansing Correctional Facility;
 - The 2009 Contract Employee of the Year - Officer Doug Mitchell, Wichita Police Department, who serves the Southern Parole Region; and,
 - The 2009 Volunteer of the Year - Sharon Leiker, Norton Correctional Facility.
- Following the ceremony, Topeka

2009 KDOC Employees and Volunteer of the Year



Lt. Maria Bos,
Uniformed
Employee of the
Year



Harold Sass,
Non-uniformed
Employee of the
Year



Doug Mitchell,
Contract
Employee of the
Year



Sharon Leiker,
Volunteer of the
Year

State Sen. Laura Kelly spoke at a luncheon hosted by Topeka Correctional Facility to recognize the 42 employee and volunteer of the year award nominees. Kelly, who worked in an Illinois minimum-security prison for boys following her graduation from college, noted that correctional employees provide a service that is crucial to the state's well being.

"Kansas is a better place to live because of you," she said.

In his remarks, Secretary Werholtz acknowledged staff for their dedication to the Department's mission despite recent budget cuts and working with an inmate population that has more severe mental health needs and been sentenced for increasingly more violent crimes.

"You're the best at what you do," he said. "In the coming years, we're going to need that from you and more. We need you to expect more from your co-workers and show them how to deliver on that expectation. Anything less puts your co-workers and the public at greater risk."

The Department recognized Information Consultant Harold Sass as its

Non-Uniformed Employee of the Year for his championing Lansing Correctional Facility's efforts to find affordable technologies that improve productivity and efficiency. Among the creative solutions that Sass has played a role in deploying are: installing electronic logbooks to make the process quicker, easier and less costly and installing a low-cost disk storage redundancy and backup solution. He also extended the longevity of older PCs by connecting the PCs to central servers which enabled the older PCs to run newer software and leveraged the use of free software.

Lt. Maria Bos, a Corrections Specialist II at El Dorado Correctional Facility, was named the Department's Uniformed Employee of the Year for taking a lead role in improving the efficiency of the facility's disciplinary division. Bos implemented a process by which inmate disciplinary hearings can be conducted by telephone. Her suggestion to move to double-sided printing reduced the amount of paper used for the division's records by 40 percent.

The Department selected Sharon

TCF Work Crews Help Pick Up Topeka

City of Topeka Recognizes TCF Clean-up Efforts

Inmates from Topeka Correctional Facility performed more than 40,000 hours of service sprucing up the City of Topeka in 2008, saving the City of Topeka an estimated \$422,320 in labor costs.

For the facility's part in keeping Topeka presentable, the City of Topeka recognized the Kansas Department of Corrections and Topeka Correctional Facility's seven work crew supervisors during National Keep America Beautiful Month in April.

The city wanted to honor the city's Inmate Services Work Forces at the same time that the city was given an award by the national non-profit group Keep America Beautiful. The group noted Topeka's litter reduction work in presenting the award.

"Our whole community benefits from the good work the Department of Corrections provides through their inmate program," said Topeka Deputy City Manager Randy Speaker. "Many miles of state highway and areas about town receive maintenance attention they would normally not receive."

The Department of Corrections' inmate work crews have assisted the city with clean-up efforts since 1991.



TCF work crew supervisors received certificates from the City of Topeka for helping with clean-up projects throughout the city.

KDOC's Ironwoman: Erika Nilles-Plumlee

The Kansas Department of Corrections can boast of its own Ironwoman.

R3 Statewide Family Specialist Erika Nilles-Plumlee competed on one of the top finishing female teams in the Ironman 70.3 Kansas held in Lawrence on June 14. However, Nilles-Plumlee's toughest competition is one that helped her finish the Boston Marathon in April.

Nilles-Plumlee completed the last leg for her three-member team in the Ironman event where competitors swam 1.2 miles, biked 56 miles and ran 13.1 miles. To finish the grueling 26.2 miles required in running the Boston Marathon, Nilles-Plumlee looked to her parents as her source of inspiration.

Nilles-Plumlee ran the marathon to raise money and awareness for those affected by Alzheimer's Disease. Nilles-Plumlee's mother, Laura Nilles, is one of 5.2 million Americans living with Alzheimer's. Her father is her mother's primary caregiver.

"During the time when my parents should be enjoying their retirement as a couple, my dad has assumed the day-to-day roles and responsibilities of a caregiver, which he has done

with patience and grace," Nilles-Plumlee said. "As moms ourselves, my sister and I have not been afforded the opportunity to seek the wisdom and advice of our own mom. And at the ages of 5 and 6, my sons are full of questions about why grandma can not do certain things instead of enjoying the passion and charisma and fun that used to radiate from her."



R3 Statewide Family Specialist Erika Nilles-Plumlee, pictured here with a team member who ran with Plumlee in the Boston Marathon in April.

As a member of the Alz Stars team, Nilles-Plumlee raised \$3,095 for the Alzheimer's Association of Kansas City. The funds will support the organization's effort in providing care, support and research to end the fatal disease.

KDOC Contracts for Enhanced Inmate Banking and Communication Services

Department approves electronic enhancements to improve facility security

For the cost of a stamp, family and friends can e-mail an inmate. Kansas correctional facilities have launched inmate e-mail and video visitation in an effort to prevent contraband from coming into the facilities while also generating revenue for inmate programs.

The Kansas Department of Corrections announced in May that the Department of Corrections had entered into a contract amendment with Embarq Payphone Services Inc., a unit of Embarq Corp., of Overland Park. The move is expected to improve security and reduce the introduction of contraband, reduce staff time and involvement in screening mail and generate commissions for the Department in the areas of inmate trust accounts (banking), mail, and visitation.

Embarq, the Department's provider for inmate telephone services, will utilize the services of JPay, Inc., of Miami, Fla. JPay provides services to more than one million inmates in the U.S.

"For years, the administration of inmate financial accounts and processing of mail has required a significant amount of staff time," Secretary Werholtz said.

"Inmate mail is one of the primary methods for introducing contraband into a correctional facility and also requires significant staff resources. I am very pleased that the services offered by Embarq/JPay will help us dramatically improve our ability to process, monitor and track these activities."

Inmates do not have access to the Internet. Electronic messages are sent through JPay's web site and then downloaded

and processed to kiosks located in the correctional facilities.

All messages are screened by computer software for words that may represent a risk to facility security or the public's safety. All photos also are reviewed by staff. Those wishing to send or receive messages must have an account with JPay.

The Department expects to transition more than 50 percent of all inmate personal correspondence into e-messages. Utilizing JPay's kiosks in each correctional facility, friends and family members of inmates may:

- Send funds to an inmate on-line, by phone or at cash locations. Previously, money orders had to be processed by hand in each facility business office.
- Send electronic messages to specific inmates, and inmates can respond via electronic mail to those on the outside

THE DEPARTMENT EXPECTS TO TRANSITION MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF ALL INMATE PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE INTO E-MESSAGES.

who have initiated the electronic message contact. Previously, each incoming envelope was opened and inspected for contraband. Depending on security issues involving a particular inmate, each incoming piece of mail from family or friends was read by staff.

- Conduct video visiting from an off-site location. Travel is often difficult for an inmate's family or friends. Video visitation will reduce the amount of time someone spends traveling to and from a facility, and reduce the number of visitors who are processed in to and out of a facility. This service is expected to be operational later this year.

FAQs

A complete list of frequently asked questions is available at: www.doc.ks.gov.

- **How do I correspond with an inmate by e-mail? How does an inmate correspond with me?**

You can correspond with an inmate by going to www.JPay.com, establishing an account with them and identifying the inmate(s) you wish to correspond with. An inmate can correspond with you by either replying to an electronic message you have sent to him/her; or by having the system send you a form letter requesting permission for him/her to be able to correspond. If you approve the request he/she can then write messages to you. If you deny the request or simply do not respond, he/she cannot write to you.

- **Will inmates have their own e-mail usernames?**

Inmates will not have user names or domain names. It is not e-mail in the typical sense of the word, it is an electronic message sent through JPay's web site.

- **What if I no longer want an inmate to e-mail me?**

The family or friend may request to be removed from the inmate's approved correspondence list at any time.

EOY: Employees and Volunteers Recognized
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Leiker as the Volunteer of the Year for her work at Norton Correctional Facility (NCF). Leiker, who began volunteering at NCF in 2007, has assisted with the development of the Stop Violence call-out (now called Reaching Out from Within) and she has been a dependable volunteer by filling in as the minimum and medium call-out leader. She also has assisted with fund raisers for the group that she oversees in order to help to stock a local food pantry for the needy. She also is the back-up coordinator for The Haven, an overnight hostel for inmate families.

Wichita Police Officer Doug Mitchell was named the Department's Contract Employee of the year for his work as the Re-entry Police Liaison in the Southern Parole Region. Mitchell has been available at a moment's notice when case managers have had offenders in crisis. Mitchell developed the tools necessary for case managers to provide accurate information regarding detainers and financial obligations to offenders who could then begin planning managing these obligations as part of their pre-release planning. He is also a member of the accountability panel and often provides guidance to offenders.

2009 KDOC Employee and Volunteer of the Year Nominees

UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Troy M. Frimmel - Ellsworth Correctional Facility
Maria Bos - El Dorado Correctional Facility
Gary Hook - Hutchinson Correctional Facility
John Thomas - Lansing Correctional Facility

Brian Pivonka - Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility
Bob Husted - Norton Correctional Facility
Brian Scharf - Topeka Correctional Facility
Keith McLaughlin - Winfield Correctional Facility/Wichita Work Release Facility

NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Joseph E. Pruitt - Ellsworth Correctional Facility
Jerry Clark - El Dorado Correctional Facility
Harold Sass - Lansing Correctional Facility
Betty Garcia - Kansas Correctional Industries
Kylee Kelley - Southern Parole Region
Tina Waldron - Central Office

Kylah Foote - Topeka Correctional Facility
Jack Karriker - Hutchinson Correctional Facility
Allan Smith - Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility
Judy Long - Northern Parole Region
Teresa Kultgen - Norton Correctional Facility
Teresa Stalnaker - Winfield Correctional Facility/Wichita Work Release Facility

CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Vickie Lanter - Ellsworth Correctional Facility
Tom Wedl - El Dorado Correctional Facility
Elizabeth DeHaven - Lansing Correctional Facility
Doug Mitchell - Southern Parole Region
Dr. Mary Redmon - Central Office
Crystal Sprague - Community Corrections

Alan Beck - Topeka Correctional Facility
Duane Krueger - Hutchinson Correctional Facility
Lucy Brown - Northern Parole Region
Marlene Abel - Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility
Diana Helms - Norton Correctional Facility
Tina Thames - Winfield Correctional Facility/Wichita Work Release Facility

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Sharon Leiker - Norton Correctional Facility
Theresa Carter - Topeka Correctional Facility
John Casner - Northern Parole Region

Rene Moore - El Dorado Correctional Facility
Bob Deffenbaugh - Hutchinson Correctional Facility
Pastor John Curtis & Family - Ellsworth Correctional Facility

Barton Prince - Southern Parole Region
John Vanzant - Lansing Correctional Facility

Mary Bieberle - Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility
Ida Fay Smith - Larned Correctional Mental Health Facility

Roughing It Without Leaving Behind All the Comforts of Home

Inmate-built cabins increase in popularity

More inmate-built cabins are popping up at state parks. But make reservations well in advance before packing the camping gear. The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks reports a record number of reservations being booked for the cabins that feature air-conditioned stays amid Kansas' most picturesque landscapes.

To date, inmates at the correctional facilities in Hutchinson, Ellsworth, and Norton have constructed nearly two dozen cabins. Once completed the cabins are moved to permanent locations at state parks and reservoirs. Female inmates from Topeka Correctional Facility also have assisted in constructing cabinetry for the cabins.

New cabins are going up every year as part of plans to construct another 128 cabins in the next five years, said Mark



Fall River State Park, located in southeast Kansas, offers two rustic cabins rentals.

Stock, the wildlife department's cabin coordinator.

"People just love these cabins," Stock said. "They are wildly popular."

Kansas Wildscape Foundation (KWF), a non-profit conservation organization, provides funding for the construction program as part of a cooperative agreement with the Kansas Department of Corrections, KDWP and

the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center (Greenbush).

Begun in 2006, the cabin program also has proven to be popular with inmates. The program helps inmates gain construction certifications that can assist them in finding meaningful employment upon their release.

Most cabins accommodate four to six adults while others are planned to sleep up to 10 adults. The cabins feature fully furnished kitchens and living areas. On average, the cost is about \$70 per night depending on the season and location.

Cabin reservations may be made online at www.ksoutdoors.com. New cabins will open throughout the summer including two slated for opening in August at Clinton State Park near Lawrence.

New Denture Program Takes Root at Topeka Correctional Facility

A new vocational education program at Topeka Correctional Facility hopes to fill a need for dentures among the state-wide inmate population while teaching inmates valuable skills.

Eight inmates at the state's only female correctional facility began learning how to produce partial and full dentures in January through the Kansas Dental Lab Program.

The inmates are studying to become dental-lab technicians who will produce dentures for the state's inmate population upon completion of the six-month program.

"The students have worked hard and progressed rapidly," said Keith Murray, Correct Care Solutions (CCS) regional dental director for the Department of

Corrections.

The program, administered by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center (Greenbush), is scheduled to expand the program into a private industry production unit operated within the classroom. At least two students who excel in the program will graduate to producing dentures and related appliances while earning minimum wage.

Using a state-of-the-art dental lab complete with computer monitors at each work station, the technicians will produce dentures to be sold to the Department of Corrections' dental contractor. Dentures also could be made for community safety net clinics that serve those in need. The sold products would help offset ongoing program expenses.

Students participating in the program can earn certifications that are needed to apply for similar positions in private dental laboratories upon their release.

Department Healthcare Contract Administrator Viola Riggan said inmate-manufactured dentures would be about one-third the current cost. The program also will significantly cut the waiting time for inmates who are in need of dentures, she said.

In 2007, 460 inmates received dentures. A full set of dentures costs approximately \$300.

United Methodist Health Ministry Fund provided a \$66,500 grant to establish the program. Delta Dental also is providing funding and assistance.

By The Numbers

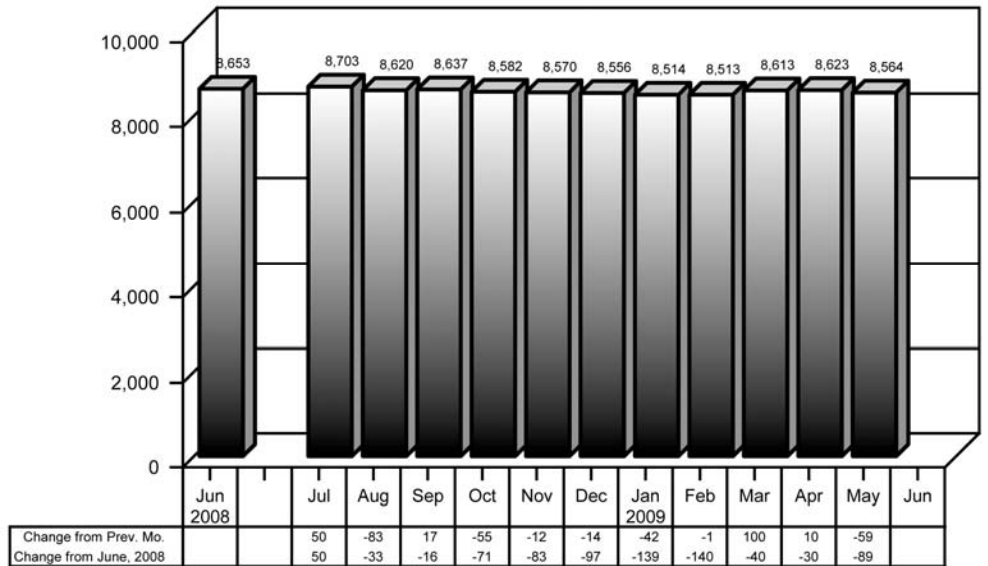
A Statistical Overview of KDOC Population Numbers

Inmate Population Total

A total of 8,564 inmates were in the custody of the Secretary of Corrections as of May 31, 2009.

This total reflects the combined inmate population from Kansas Department of Corrections facilities and non-Department of Corrections facilities. Some inmates are housed in other correctional-type environments throughout the state.

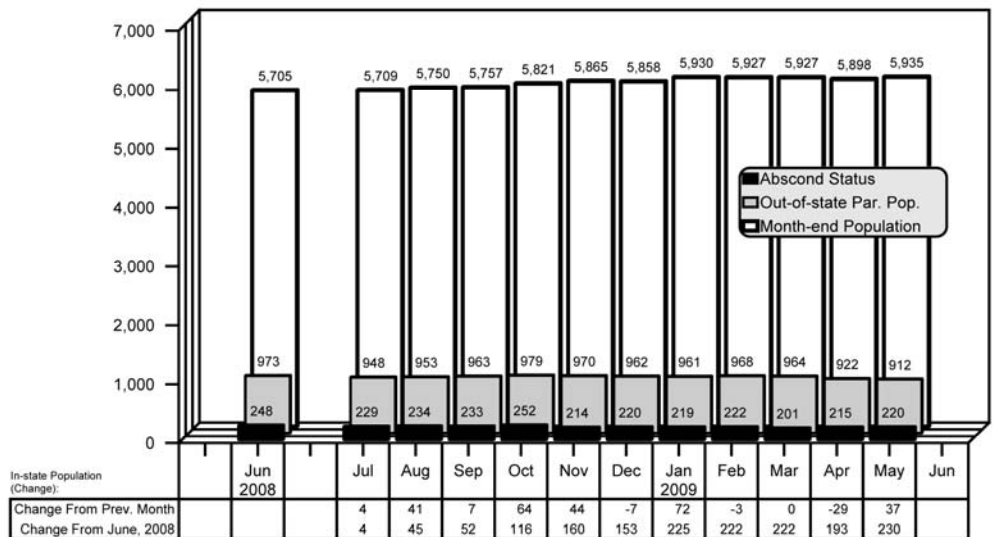
End-of-month Inmate Population: FY 2009 to Date*



Post-incarceration Population Total

A total of 5,935 inmates were under post-incarceration management in Kansas as of May 31, 2009. The term "under post-incarceration management" encompasses the traditional "parole population" (Kansas offenders on parole/conditional release in Kansas and compact cases supervised in Kansas), as well as offenders released under the provisions of the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines Act who are serving a designated period of supervised release.

Components of the End-of-month Population Under Post-incarceration Management: FY 2009 to Date*



*In-state population is comprised of Kansas offenders supervised in Kansas and out-of-state offenders supervised in Kansas. Out-of-state population is comprised of Kansas offenders supervised out-of-state. Those on abscond status have active warrants (whereabouts unknown).

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NUMBERS: Statistical Overview

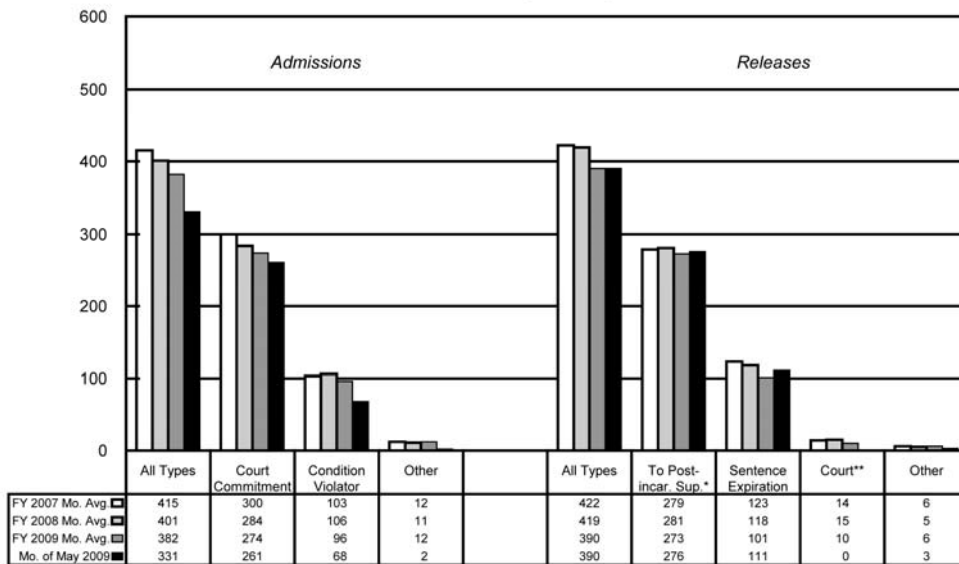
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Admission and Release Events

Admission events for court commitments include new court commitments, probation violators with no new sentence, probation violators with a new sentence and conditional release violators with a new sentence. Admission events for condition violations include returns by KDOC action while "Other" admission events include inter-jurisdictional transfers and returns from escape and court appearances.

Release events for court releases include probation, those returned parolees placed on probation, those released on appeal bond and those released for court appearances. Release in the "Other" category include deaths, inter-jurisdictional transfers and escapes.

Number of Admission and Release Events Per Month (by Major Category): Comparison of FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009 to Date Monthly Averages with Current Month's Totals

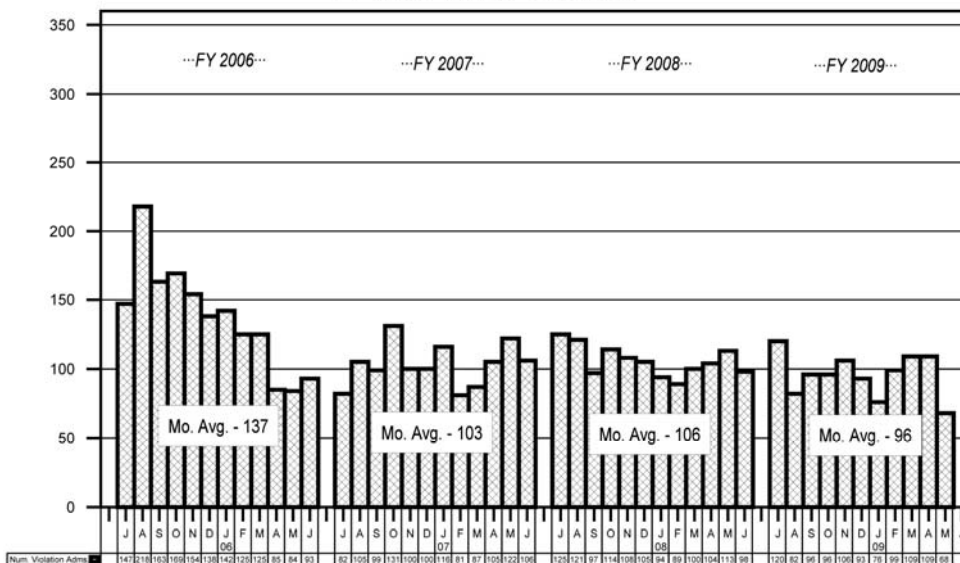


*Includes parole releases by action of the Kansas Parole Board as well as releases to supervision via the provisions of the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines Act of 1993.
 ** Figure can be a negative number for a particular month [since it is based on the total number whose last exit for the period (fiscal year to date) was via "out-to-court" minus the previous month's total, which can be a smaller or greater number].

Return Admissions for Condition Violations

Admission events for condition violations are returns by KDOC action including parole violators with no new sentence and conditional release violators with no new sentence.

Number of Return Admissions for Condition Violations by Month: FY 2006 - FY 2009 to Date*



*Total number of admissions for violation of the conditions of release (no new sentence).

Donnelly College Tackles Recidivism Rates

College's program at LCF gains momentum with federal grant

A small Kansas City college will be able to continue making a big impact in the lives of its students who reside at the College's satellite campus - Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF).

The U.S. Department of Justice recently awarded a \$223,000 grant to Donnelly College. The College's associate-degree program had enrolled 32 LCF inmates during the 2009 spring semester.

The College estimates its satellite program is one of less than a dozen similar programs in the country dedicated to educating inmates in an effort to reduce recidivism rates. The federal grant will help support program operations for the next three years.

"Donnelly's program at Lansing is simply an extension of our original mission to serve those who might otherwise go unserved," said Donnelly President Dr. Steve LaNasa.

"We know that education exerts a powerful effect on the lives of those that pursue it. The Lansing program recognizes that education can help to transform the lives of these students, and that those who make the commitment deserve the chance to pursue a college education."

The program has enrolled approxi-



(front, left to right): LCF Warden David McKune speaks with U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback after a press conference announcing a \$223,000 U.S. Department of Justice grant to Donnelly College for its degree program for LCF inmates.

mately 50 inmates annually since its inception in 2001 and has awarded associate of arts degrees to 14 inmates. Instructors teach either at the correctional facility or via a closed-circuit television system. The program is available to inmates at all custody levels.

Of the 155 former inmates who have been released from prison only three students, or two percent, returned to prison for committing new crimes.

In announcing the Department of Justice grant, U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback of Kansas noted how the program is in keeping with congressional efforts

to cut the national recidivism rate in half.

"Donnelly's Lansing program can serve as a model for other prisons," Sen. Brownback said.

"People in prison need to do time for their crime, but they are not without redemption. We have a problem when we start looking at people as problems."

According to the College, federal analyses have indicated that higher education in prisons yields at least \$2 in public savings for every dollar spent. The College hopes its success will serve as a cost-effective model to help lower recidivism rates and as a way to improve communities.

The inmates are enrolled in the program after a determination is made on their readiness for college work. State tax dollars are not used for paying inmate tuition or books. Inmates, or their families, pay only one-third of the hourly tuition fee. The College provides funds for the remaining tuition and program costs, which are kept minimal in part due to the partnership and in-kind contributions provided by the LCF administration.

To learn more about the program, visit www.donnelly.edu.