



Rehabilitation

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Rehabilitative Programs
Tanya Rothchild, Director (A)

Today!



The Education Expansion Continues!

The Office of Correctional Education (OCE) is in the process of adding additional Academic and Career Technical Education programs for the 2013/14 Fiscal Year. OCE is using data to determine the number of inmates within the target population who are able to participate in the various programs. OCE is using this information to determine the number of new programs needed at each institution. This will help CDCR to ensure the right inmate is in the right class, at the right time.

Education staff should be on the look-out for new training. New training opportunities will soon be available for the following staff:

- TV Specialists
- Library Staff
- Development Disability Program Staff
- Recreation Teachers
- Office Technology Instructors
- Principals
- Vice Principals

Ironwood Braille Program

Helping Us See the True
Meaning of Rehabilitation



The Ironwood Braille Program (IBP) celebrated its five-year anniversary! Established in 2008, the program is a partnership between Ironwood State Prison (ISP) and the Alternate Text Production Center (ATPC) of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. The Braille Program offers selected inmates the challenging skill of Braille transcribing. Certified inmate transcribers convert college textbooks to Braille volumes for visually impaired students in California community colleges, which is the largest community college system in the world. Workstations are equipped with software that allows inmates to transcribe, format, and proofread Braille. Through hard work and dedication, inmates can become certified by the Library of Congress in Literary Braille and learn specialized Braille texts like math and science. To receive certification, inmates must successfully complete a twenty-lesson course developed by the National Braille Federation of the Blind (NFB), and submit a 35-page manuscript with a score of 80 percent or higher. The current IBP participant's average was 92 percent; well above the national average.

On April 30, 2013, the IBP held an award ceremony honoring the program's five year anniversary. 90 certifications were recognized during this ceremony, including 76 E-text and 14 Library of Congress Certifications. Since 2008, 17 inmates have been certified in Literary Braille. In addition, over 160,000 pages and 148 electronic books have been produced for the disabled.

Born out of a desire to enhance programming at ISP, then Warden Debra Herndon partnered with the ATPC to open the IBP. Warden Long continues to support the program today and is expanding the number of participants.

Earl Pride has been the IBP Coordinator since the program's inception in 2008. He has been instrumental in increasing the program from 12 assigned inmates to 24, and with creating an IBP inmate leisure time self-help group which raises money to support local charities. Many thanks to Earl for his dedication and commitment to this unique program.

**Great job Warden Long,
Earl Pride, and the IBP!**



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CIM Hosts Providers' Fair!

On April 26, 2013, the California Institution for Men (CIM), Facility D, hosted their quarterly Providers' Fair. The event is set up much like a job fair. The Fair gives inmates participating in substance abuse programs face-to-face access with representatives from community providers to answer questions and provide valuable information on aftercare programs.

CIM also invites Probation Officers from various counties to participate in the event. This unique opportunity allows the offenders who will be supervised by county probation to ask pertinent questions about probation requirements and community programs that are available to them upon release.

The Providers' Fair is a great way to present valuable information and resources to inmates and facilitate their transition back into their communities. The CIM Providers' Fair has become very popular among both inmates and community providers.

Do you want to know more information about the fair?
Contact Carlos Ramirez, CC III, at (909) 606-7292



Motivational Interviewing Achieves Crucial Milestone

All Correctional Counselors (CC) from CDCR institutions statewide, have recently completed the first phase of Motivational Interviewing (MI) training. The training is designed to assist the CCs in the completion of COMPAS assessments and prepare them for the implementation of correctional rehabilitation reforms, in line with the CDCR's Strategic Plan. Since March 2012, 1,430 CC's statewide have successfully completed MI training!

What's Coming Next with MI?

The next phase of MI training is MI 2:

MI2 focuses on Enhancing Motivation through MI Principles, and is scheduled to roll out later this year. It is designed to increase the participants' proficiency with the MI tools. The strategy is for participants to start implementing MI techniques with offenders to overcome resistance, ambivalence, and support the offender in this critical time of change.

Do you want to know more about Motivational Interviewing?
Contact Mary Thomas at mary.thomas2@cdcr.ca.gov



CDCR Moves to the Newest Version of COMPAS

In early May, the CDCR upgraded to the newest version of the COMPAS software. This new version of the COMPAS software suite includes new assessments that will identify a new set of criminogenic needs, including substance abuse, criminal personality, anger management, educational problems, employment problems, and support from family of origin. These new scales have been selected to assist in assigning offenders to rehabilitative programs both in CDCR institutions and in the new Reentry Hubs.

The new version of the COMPAS software suite includes a number of new features based on feedback from the field and the community. We have added a disclaimer to the assessment results print-out, which will ensure that the assessment is more compelling when relating to offenders serving life terms. We have also added a robust ad hoc reporting feature. This will allow supervisory staff at headquarters, and in the field, to get a more complete view of operations. These reports include the ability to generate lists of assessments which have not been completed at an institution, as well as graphs showing criminogenic needs of a population.

If you want to know more about COMPAS 8, e-mail the COMPAS unit at COMPAS.Mailbox@cdcr.ca.gov