



Rehabilitation

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP)
Millicent Tidwell, Director (A)

Today!



L to R: Paul Landman, L.C.S.W., Supervisor and Clinician, A. Graham, Teacher, Millicent Tidwell, Director (A), DRP, C. Kumar, Teacher, Dr. Shama Chaiken, Chief of Mental Health, Dr. D. Hamad, Principal (A), Inmate Cooper, Tim Virga, Warden, Nettie Sabelhaus, Governor's Office.

EOP Success at SAC!

California State Prison–Sacramento (SAC) recently held another graduation ceremony. Like other graduation ceremonies, this had friends and staff in attendance. Unlike other graduation ceremonies, just one student received his High School diploma, which was achieved under extraordinary conditions.

Inmate Kevin Cooper attended classes through SAC's Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP). EOP includes General Population inmates who can program with modification, usually counseling, medication and/or reduced hours of programming. Tasks, like school work, can be a big challenge for these inmates.

The small EOP class meets weekly as part of the Voluntary Education Program. Each new student takes academic tests, then meets with the teacher to set their education goals for the quarter. Inmate Cooper needed to finish Algebra to earn his diploma. Math is a daunting challenge for many students. Inmate Cooper faced this challenge, committed to completing his diploma and worked very hard to meet his goal, with extra support from staff.

DRP congratulates Inmate Cooper and SAC staff for reaching this milestone!

[Ed. Note: As this newsletter goes to press, we have learned that Inmate Cooper is being transferred to a lower security institution!]

Please contact Dr. D. Hamad, Principal (A), California State Prison-Sacramento,
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"Inmate Cooper's enthusiasm is infectious. He is planning to enroll in our college program and has started to write out his goals for his post-incarceration career. His family is excited about his achievement and the new direction his life is taking."
Dr. D. Hamad, Principal (A), SAC

Update: Reentry Hubs

Reentry Hubs are tracking to be fully operational in 2014 in support of CDCR's Blueprint, due to fast and furious work by DRP teams:

Thanks to the fast and furious work by various DRP teams, currently four Reentry Hubs are operational: California Men's Colony (CMC), Ironwood State Prison (ISP), Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) and California Institution for Women (CIW). The remaining nine Hubs are on schedule for an early 2014 start date.

High Desert State Prison (HDSP) has been selected as the 13th Reentry Hub. The relocation of a Reentry Hub to HDSP will expand programming opportunities to higher level inmates. California Rehabilitation Center (CRC) and California Correctional Institution (CCI) will continue with stand-alone Substance Abuse Treatment programs.



Inmate artists created this rehabilitative mural to launch the Reentry Hub at California State Prison-Los Angeles!

In September 2013, Reentry Hubs started accepting CAL-ID applications. The CAL-ID program will ensure eligible inmates have a California Identification Card upon release, which will help with their successful integration back into society.

The pre-release Transitions program, which provides inmates with critical job-finding and personal financial skills, has just been launched at Central California Women's Facility (CCWF), Folsom Women's Facility (FWF) and Valley State Prison (VSP).



Rehabilitation

Today!

...the right inmate in the right program at the right time

Academic Programs

Increase inmate reading levels to minimum 9th grade level with G.E.D. and accredited college courses also available

Career Technical Education

Prepares inmates for viable vocational career paths upon release by training to industry certification levels

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Provides evidence-based treatment for Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Family Relationships and Criminal Thinking

Offender Mentor Certification

Trains and certifies long-term inmates as interns by California Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (CAADAC) to assist as mentors in various substance abuse treatment programs

Pre-Employment Transition

Provides job readiness skills including job search, resume, interviewing, financial skills, access to one-stop career centers

California Identification Card

Assists in obtaining state-issued I.D. cards assist in securing employment, housing, bank accounts, travel, and more

Reentry Hubs

Provide relevant training and services to eligible and interested inmates within 4 years of release

Step-Down Pilot Program

Provides alternatives to criminal gang lifestyle to reduce confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU)

Watch for New Programs:

- Long-Term Offender Program
- Sex Offender Treatment

...and...right outside the gate!

Community & Reentry Services

A growing network of focused evidence-based programs and partnerships emphasize substance abuse treatment, life skills, career development and education, to help offenders transform their lives and successfully reintegrate into society

For Inmates by Inmates

Inmates and Associate Warden Kimberlyn Young at California State Prison-Solano (SOL), developed a creative solution when the third watch yard program was suspended in 2011 due to staff budget cuts: the In Building Self Help Program (IBSHP). This outside-the-box voluntary rehabilitative program educates Level II inmates about making better choices, transparency therapy, communication techniques, soul searching, anger management and personal transformation, positive thinking, yoga, meditation classes aging population, book club programs, movie review, writing and public speaking. More than 50% of the curriculum is written by the inmates, and 100% is taught by inmates. Courses are offered in early evening (the third watch) and keeps inmates occupied and motivated.



When the third watch yard resumed in 2012, inmates chose to continue with IBSHP classes with the support of yard building officers who witnessed positive behavioral changes. Several hundred inmates on each Level II yard currently participate in this program and it has become common to hear at the Board of Parole Hearings, "Are you involved in the Level II In Building Self Help Programs?"

Participants of this program cite the community support and information access as key ingredients of their success; several have shared how the program has helped them to become more respectful and productive citizens. Associate Warden Young shared that more SOL Level II inmates are getting parole dates. As one inmate, Cotton Jones put it, "this program has changed many lives, and more likely than not, saved many lives".

Please contact Dr. Kenya Williams, Office of Correctional Education, kenya.williams@cdcr.ca.gov



Keith Lane, Butte County Office of Education, Colleen Curtin, Chief, DRP Community Reentry Services (CRS), Trent Manning, Caltrans Statewide Litter Abatement Manager, Regina Banks, Manager II, DRP CRS, Jake Meehan, Vice President, Northern California Construction and Training (NCCCT) at launch of Fresno's Litter Abatement Partnership program.

Win-Win with Caltrans and CDCR

The Caltrans – CDCR joint initiative that provides transitional employment to parolees is expanding into more California communities! The Caltrans Parolee Program (CPP), initially developed by Sacramento's Community Based Coalition (SCBC) and expanded into Oakland through the Golden State Works (GSW), is also operating in Stockton, Los Angeles and San Bernadino. On September 19, Caltrans, CDCR and Westcare America (CDCR's provider of community reentry services in Fresno) officially launched Fresno's version of this program, called the Litter Abatement Partnership Program.

Parolees work in teams to clear trash and debris from major roadways. Parolees are encouraged to develop a combination of life and work skills through team work, individual performance and attendance. Upon completion of this paid, full-time, 90 day program, the parolee can apply for employment with Caltrans. The SCBC reports 5% recidivism for parolees during the time they are participating in the Cal Trans Work Crew program, and more than 70% of the participants found full or part-time work, or returned to school, upon completing this program!

Please contact Regina Banks, Community and Reentry Services, regina.banks@cdcr.ca.gov

"Everyone wins with this program. Parolees are being productive as they reintegrate into their communities. Caltrans gets the help they need, and California's taxpayers enjoy cleaner highways while saving money."
Dan Stone, Director, Division of Adult Parole Operations



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