Welcome ARMS:

Automated Reentry Management System (ARMS) is being developed for Summer 2015 implementation. ARMS will enhance case management for CDCR and contracted providers. It is expected to improve performance measurement of both offender progress and program effectiveness. ARMS will also have the capability of providing real-time data to inform program quality reviews to CDCR and stakeholders.

Questions? Email ARMSRequests@cdcr.ca.gov

Rehabilitative Arts

Arts-in-Corrections (AIC) programs have launched in 14 adult institutions. These programs encompass theater, music, dance, creative writing, poetry, storytelling, painting and drawing. The California Arts Council is administering services provided by seven organizations, who partner with local arts agencies to provide contracted services.

William James Association, whose privately funded Prison Arts Project launched in 1977 was a model for AIC, is providing programming to ten institutions. At California State Prison, San Quentin (SQ), 112 inmates are currently taking art, music, writing and theater with nine contracted and four volunteer instructors. More than 500 inmates will enroll in classes during 2014 on a first-come, first-served basis, and upon approval by each instructor. Objectives for inmates include increased self-esteem and self-discipline, a more positive outlook on the world, and improved problem-solving skills as they master artistic and creative techniques.

Class participants work on projects, many of which are presented to other inmates or, in some cases, public exhibitions and performances. Notable 2014 SQ projects include art exhibits at Alcatraz Island National Park, Rutgers University and Loyola Marymount University, Brothers-in-Pen publications and public readings performed by former inmates; Marin Shakespeare’s performances of plays written and inspired by William Shakespeare; and music concerts.

Project participation and completion are criteria used for inmates to continue in these programs; inmates cite the supportive and peaceful atmosphere of the studio; mentor relationships between instructors and students; and their own commitment to creativity and self-expression.

Please contact Carol Newborg, Program Manager, San Quentin Arts Project, carol@williamjamesassociation.org

One Man’s Story: Impact of Arts in Corrections

Robert Vincent is a success story of an inmate who spent 15 years in prison, participated in the arts program where he learned how to make guitars, and used this skill to support his family after he was released.

Raymond Vincent, Robert’s oldest son, stated that his father, once released, taught him and his brother wood-working and guitar-building. He now helps his father build guitars for artists such as Carlos Santana, while his brother makes his living building custom cabinets.

“Not only are inmates channeling their energy into constructive, creative projects, they are also learning new skills and expressing themselves in positive ways.”

CDCR Secretary Jeff Beard

McFarland Opens for Female Inmates

McFarland Female Community Reentry Facility (FCRF) in Kern County is CDCR’s newest Reentry Hub facility. Designed for 300 female offenders, FCRF opened on August 4, 2014. 258 female offenders are currently housed in a dormitory setting. FCRF’s mission is to provide pre-release programs for female offenders within three years of release, who demonstrate a willingness to maintain appropriate behavior to benefit from the offered programs.

FCRF’s reentry hub classes began on September 8, 2014 with 205 female offenders participating in programming. This includes gender-responsive Cognitive Behavioral Treatment for Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Family Relationships and Criminal Thinking, and the pre-release Transitions program. Basic education including General Education Development is also offered, as is a Career Technical Education (CTE) class for Office Technology. College courses are available through the Voluntary Education Program. Female offenders can also participate in a supervised offender-operated hair salon.

Please contact Gregory Duran, Correctional Counselor III, FCRF, gregory.duran@cdcr.ca.gov.

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Rehabilitation Today!

Please contact Carol Newborg, Program Manager, San Quentin Arts Project, carol@williamjamesassociation.org

Please contact Gerald Howze and Counselor Christina Maldonado.

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The right inmate in the right program at the right time:

**Academic Education**
Increases inmate reading levels to minimum 9th grade level and achieve a GED or high school diploma. Access to college courses also available.

**California Identification Card**
Assists in obtaining state-issued I.D. cards used to secure employment, housing, bank accounts, travel, and more.

**Career Technical Education**
Prepares inmates for viable vocational career paths upon release by training to industry certification levels.

**Cognitive Behavioral Treatment**
Provides evidence-based treatment for Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Family Relationships and Criminal Thinking.

**Long Term Offender Program**
Provides evidenced-based treatment programming in criminogenic behavior to inmates serving long-term sentences.

**Offender Mentor Certification**
Trains and certifies long-term inmates as interns 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 career centers.

**Reentry Hub**
Provides relevant training and services to eligible and interested inmates within 4 years of release.

**Step-Down Program**
Provides alternatives to criminal gang lifestyle to reduce confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU).

**Substance Abuse Treatment**
Promotes positive social behavior and help inmates develop knowledge and skills necessary to avoid substance use relapse and successfully reintegrate back into the community, through single and multi-level substance abuse treatment programs.

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**REHABILITATIVE ADVANCEMENT**

Educational TV Networks Launch in Institutions

Office of Correctional Education’s (OCE) Internet Protocol Television Integration (IPTVI) project is gearing up to significantly increase the number of daily viewing opportunities in each adult institution. Inmate television channels will deliver adult basic education, career technical education, college courses, other rehabilitative initiatives, and department-regulated information.

IPTVI components were configured on a new network and began streaming at Central California Women’s Facility (CCWF) on September 29, 2014 – a first for CDCR. Similar infrastructure and equipment were also established at Folsom State Prison (FSP). Future installations are scheduled at Substance Abuse Treatment Facility (SATF), Correctional Training Facility (CTF), Ironwood State Prison (ISP), and California State Prison, Los Angeles County (LAC).

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**Reaching a National Audience**

A recent webinar included the Office of Correctional Education’s Mike Valdez to address a national audience on key practices and successful operation of construction crafts training programs. Mr. Valdez, a 26-year CDCR employee, is currently a Vice Principal providing statewide coordination for all career technical education programs within the department.

**Corrections CTE Training with Impact**, hosted by knowledge provider Pearson VUE with the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), shared a number of topics to support construction training for inmates. These included how to conduct performance profiles with tools or devices in a secure environment, partnerships with industry/employers, and how to suggest employment searches in compliance with parole obligations. Attendees included corrections, education and private contractors providing correctional training in states ranging from Alaska to Texas, and California to New Hampshire.

Mr. Valdez shared CDCR’s use of the NCCER “open entry and open exit” modules which support inmate relocation between institutions. In his words, “This helps inmates continue where they left off, which allows inmates to complete their training on time and earn milestone credits towards their release.” The audience was interested in CDCR’s approach to mentoring and sustainability by making principals “master trainers” (see Rehabilitation Today! story April 2014).

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Please contact Denise Harris, EIS/DRP Project Manager, denise.harris@cdcr.ca.gov

Please contact Mike Valdez, Office of Correctional Education, michael.valdez@cdcr.ca.gov
Amity Foundation’s initial Providers Fair at California Rehabilitation Center (CRC) on October 10, 2014, was a huge success. CRC’s multi-level substance abuse treatment program began this summer, and provider Amity Foundation holds these events once every 3 months to help inmates review their options. More than 120 “students” explored different programs, benefits, and locations available to them during their reentry into their communities.

These inmates were given valuable information from Orange County Probation, San Diego County Probation, and the Palm Springs Parole Unit. Also participating in the event were representatives from Amity Vista Ranch, Amistad De Los Angeles, CRI-Help, Orange County Health Care Agency, B.I. Inc., Center for Living and Learning, and Fred Brown Aftercare.

The Providers Fair included speeches from CRC Warden Cynthia Y. Tampkins and Amity Foundation Clinical Supervisor Joe Fontana, who stated that Amity’s goal is to continue to support CDCR’s Blueprint mandate of having “the right inmate in the right program at the right time.”

Please contact Jay Poffek, Correctional Counselor III, CRC, jay.poffek@cdcr.ca.gov

CRC Warden, Cynthia Y. Tampkins speaks to inmates and providers at inaugural SAT provider fair.

DRP’s Performance Evaluation and Data Fidelity (PEDF) Unit not only measures progress, they make it happen! Members of the PEDF team and their families gathered to run in the American Breast Cancer Society Sacramento chapter’s Run 4 A Cure 5K run/walk on Sunday, October 19, 2014. The team exceeded their fund-raising goal by 30%, and represented DRP admirably, and are preparing for their next race on May 9, 2015 at Cal Expo.

Please contact Bryan Yong, PEDF Unit, bryan.yong@cdcr.ca.gov