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# The ROLL GAL ssue No. 10

## A MESSAGE FROM COMMISSIONER MAGINLEY-LIDDIE

The power of this Department has always been in its people. The work we perform, and the investments we make in ourselves, are felt by the city we serve.

The entire

Department should

take great pride

in what we've

accomplished

together. I know

that I am deeply

proud of all of you.

It was my honor this past month to welcome the newest classes of Cadet Education, Empowerment for Development and Success (CEEDS) participants, as well as Advanced Certificate in Corrections Management (ACCM) students. These two groups represent opposite ends of the career trajectory. The CEEDS cadets are college students exploring

careers at the Department of Correction, while the ACCM cohort includes Captains, Assistant Deputy Wardens, Deputy Wardens, and Deputy Wardens in Command who are building on their already extensive skill sets.

We also launched a new program that meets in the middle for NYC DOC employees who have earned some college credits but not yet completed an undergraduate degree. The 13 students who began the Undergraduate Certificate in Correctional Leadership (UCCL) program are the program's first participants.

From cadets to senior leaders, these colleagues demonstrate that we never stop learning in this field because the job never stops changing or challenging

us. Moreover, we are in the privileged position of putting our lessons into practice every day. Our skills change lives and make our city safer. I am incredibly proud of every single CEEDS cadet and ACCM and UCCL student for supporting our Department by investing in themselves.

Beyond professional development, the Department also made tremendous progress in upgrading Central Visits. This complex project required collaboration across multiple units and a staggered work schedule to ensure visits could continue while the building was being refurbished. The result is incredibly impressive and stands as

> a testament to the teamwork of many divisions - most notably the Facility Maintenance and Repair Division, Programs and Community Partnerships, Finance, SOD, Central Warehouse, Strategic Operations, and the First Deputy Commissioner's Office.

In addition to celebrating facility improvements and staff development, we also recognized three facilities for their remarkable contributions to city youth this summer. The winners of the Bicycle Challenge – a friendly competition among facilities to collect the most bicycles for donation - received their trophies. GRVC took top honors with 217 bikes donated, while West Facility/North Infirmary Command followed closely with 207. In total, the Department collected more than 700 bicycles for children across the city. This spirit of service has continued as staff have mobilized to raise funds and promote wellness during Breast Cancer

Awareness month with events in the community and screenings on Rikers Island.

The entire Department should take great pride in what we've accomplished together. I know that I am deeply proud of all of you.

## Benjamin Ward Visit Center GETS A MAJOR UPGRADE

The New York City Department of Correction cut the ribbon on a newly refurbished, child-friendly visit center on Rikers Island.

"In making this space more welcoming, more comfortable, and more supportive for families, we are strengthening the kinds of connections that changes lives," said Commissioner Maginley-Liddie. "We are making it easier and more welcoming for families to visit, which I hope and believe will make families want to visit their loved ones more often. More frequent visits mean creating and preserving closer bonds, and in turn, creating even more successful futures."

The renovated center was designed by the Children's Museum of Manhattan — through a collaboration with the Division of Programs and Community Partnerships — with children in mind and includes games, toys, books, and other engaging features to create a welcoming environment for visiting families.

The extensive project included upgraded LED light fixtures, a refurbished exhaust system, a new awning with lighting to protect visitors from rain and sun, as well as fresh paint and epoxy-coated floors. The renovation also featured the installation of more than 1.000 state-of-the-art lockers at



the Ward Center, replacing the old, outdated coin-operated models.

Previously, the lockers required a coin to operate, but over the years, many mechanisms had worn out and were no longer functional. The new lockers are completely free to use and operate with a unique code provided to each visitor.

The project took staff about 14 days of actual work, spread over six to seven weeks to accommodate the visiting schedule. Work was limited to Mondays and Tuesdays — non-visiting days — so that by Wednesday, when visits resumed, no areas were left partially completed.

"Let's say we removed 500 lockers," explained project lead Alfonso Tarantino, Director of the Facilities Maintenance and Repair Division. "By Wednesday, we installed 500 lockers."

The old lockers, arranged in three- and four-tier configurations throughout the Ward Center, were all bolted together and

secured to the concrete. The team had to cut each bolt to detach them safely.

In total, 1,079 lockers were installed at the Ward Center, with another 600 scheduled for installation at facilities across Rikers Island.

While the Facilities Maintenance and Repair Division handled installation, the sourcing, procurement, planning, and storage required collaboration across multiple units including the First Deputy Commissioner's Office, Finance, SOD, Central Warehouse and Strategic Operations. The Programs Division visit facilitator will maintain the space and welcome children to the play area.

"We went back and forth with drawings to determine how we wanted the lockers configured — selecting locks, making sure everything fit properly, and coordinating with our locksmiths," said Jeffrey Warner, Executive Director of Inventory Control Management in the Central Warehouse Operations Division. "There's a lot of logistics involved. Everyone did a great job from start to finish."







# A NEW GENERATION OF CORRECTIONAL LEADERS

A new generation of correctional leaders began their journeys in the field or initiated their first steps toward building skills and advancing their careers.

New classes of student cadets and managers started at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in September. Among them were 22 new participants in the Cadet Education, Empowerment for Development and Success (CEEDS) program—a oneto two-year initiative for juniors and seniors interested in pursuing careers in corrections.

The event also celebrated 11 new students in the Advanced Certificate in Corrections Management (ACCM) program, an intensive two-year course designed for outstanding uniformed employees at the ranks of Captain, Assistant Deputy Warden, Deputy Warden, or Deputy Warden in Command.

"It's really beneficial because the program takes into consideration that we're all working," said Deputy Warden John, a member of ACCM Cohort 7. "It provides us an opportunity to become better professionals in corrections while continuing our work."

This year's group was especially notable for including the inaugural 13-person class in the Undergraduate Certificate in Correctional Leadership (UCCL) program — a 12-credit program created for NYC DOC employees who have earned some college credits but not yet a full undergraduate

degree. Through coursework, workshops, and cohort-based projects, the program develops leadership, ethical decision-making, and conflict resolution skills to meet the complex challenges of correctional work.

Since its inception, there have been 164 CEEDS Cadet Alumni and 57 DOC officials to complete ACCM Certificate.

Cadet Mamadou Diallo, who is part of the CEEDS program and will complete his college education in December, shared that his experience with DOC has been eyeopening. "I saw hard work and dedication. It's not an easy job," he said. "But I was inspired by seeing officers work with people in custody. The staff want to see them succeed."

Commissioner Maginley-Liddie commended the students' commitment, saying, "As I look around at the incredible people gathered here, I see the future of corrections and public safety. Some of you bring years of experience and wisdom gained through many years of service, while others are just beginning your careers. There is so much ahead of you, and I could not be prouder."





# GRVC AND WF/NIC TAKE HOME TROPHIES

The George R. Vierno Center (GRVC) proudly collected its Bike Challenge trophy, while West Facility (WF) / North Infirmary Command (NIC) was also recognized for its very close second-place finish.

The jails donated the highest number of bicycles over the summer, which were distributed to children at community events across the city. GRVC led the pack with an impressive 217 bikes, while WF / NIC followed closely behind with 207.

In total more than 700 bicycles were collected across all commands.

Commissioner Maginley-Liddie joined the award ceremony on Sept. 29, sharing her appreciation with staff: "I know many of you could not attend these events because of your responsibilities here. But even if you could not see the distribution with your own eyes, I can promise you that the families you touched saw you. They saw your kindness, your generosity, your commitment to the people of this city. And through you, they recognized what this agency represents. I saw children ride off with smiles stretched across their faces."

Warden Carter, who led GRVC during the collection, praised her team at the ceremony "You poured into this," she said. "And that's why it was so successful." Dozens of staff gathered to celebrate the achievements of both facilities, highlighting their teamwork, generosity, and community spirit.

GRVC collected its Bike Challenge trophy while WF / NIC was also celebrated for its very close second place finish.

Warden Matos, who led the NIC during the competition, quoted the celebrated author Tahir Shah when reflecting on the award, saying "With an enthusiastic team, you can achieve almost anything."





#### **GRVC AND NIC TAKE HOME TROPHIES**

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### **HEROES NEED HELP TOO!**

All DOC staff — along with up to five family members — now have access to a free and confidential wellness app created specifically for first responders and other high-stress professions.

The app is already installed on all departmental cell phones and is also available for download on personal devices through Google Play or the App Store.











#### **EMPLOYEE LOGIN**

**Department ID** NYDOC-A-NY

**Department Code** NYCBOLDwell!

#### SPOUSE/FAMILY LOGIN

**Department ID** NYDOC-S-NY

**Department Code** NYCBOLDwell!

RETIREE LOGIN

Department ID

NYDOC-R-NY

**Department Code** NYCBOLDwell!

Department ID and Code are case sensitive.

Staff will have access to 24/7 wellness services directly from their mobile devices.

# DOC PROMOTES AWARENESS AND WELLNESS DURING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Members of The Boldest
Family united in solidarity to
raise awareness about breast
cancer and support research in
recognition of National Breast
Cancer Awareness Month.

On Sunday, September 19, the Department participated in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk in Flushing. The event—a noncompetitive 3.1-mile walk—provides community support to breast cancer survivors, individuals living with metastatic breast cancer, caregivers, and their families. It also offers teams an opportunity to honor loved ones who have lost their battle with the disease. Earlier this month, the Department continued its commitment to supporting the well-being of both its uniformed and



non-uniformed workforce by hosting a Breast Cancer Awareness Day at the GMDC Wellness Center on Rikers Island.

The event, part of ongoing staff programming led by the Department's Correction Assistance Response for Employees (CARE) Unit, featured in-depth discussions with physicians from New York–Presbyterian Hospital and Weill Cornell Medicine on the prevention, early detection, and treatment of breast cancer. It also included a bake sale to benefit the American Cancer Society.





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#### DOC PROMOTES AWARENESS AND WELLNESS DURING BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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"Early detection saves lives, it saved mine!" said Correction Officer Ashaki Antoine, who serves at the Brooklyn Criminal Court. "As a survivor of Breast Cancer for 16 years, I am reminded every day that life is a precious gift and how we live it is our gift back to God.



My focus is to advocate and support newly diagnosed women, and men, assist families of those who have unfortunately lost their battle way to soon, and walk proudly every year with my fellow survivors."

Her team, Sackie's Wings of Hope, raised \$9,186.69 for cancer research.

## **HERITAGE CELEBRATIONS** at Gracie Mansion







## **JOIN THE BOLDEST**

**Connect With DOC Recruiters** 

Looking to speak to someone about becoming a NYC Correction Officer?

#### Call (718) 707-2420 or e-mail careers@doc.nyc.gov to become a step closer to joining The Boldest. Our recruiters also visit events throughout the Tri-State area to share career information and answer hiring questions.

Be sure to also ask them when they will be visiting a community near you.

# The ROLL CALL

The New York City Department of Correction

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