OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

DECEMBER 2018



AGENCY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Compliance and Safety Center Opened

In March 2018, DOC opened a centralized location to utilize camera coverage to boost security. Currently, 37 officers and four captains are stationed at the center to monitor four facilities (AMKC, RNDC, OBCC, and GRVC).



Body Scanner Legislation Passed

This legislation is vital to improving safety in our jails. Body scanners will enhance our ability to find contraband, including drugs, titanium, non-metal weapons, small metal objects, and contraband wrapped in electrical tape. We expect this will help reduce violent incidents across the board.





DOC Launched Graduated Sanctions Program at GRVC

In October 2018, DOC launched a new Graduated Sanctions program at GRVC which gives officers the authority to hold inmates accountable including immediate sanctions for non-compliant behavior. This allows the Department to take great strides toward a safer environment for all.



DOC Cares

In March 2018, CARE was placed within the new Chaplaincy and Staff Wellness division. As part of this change, two psychologists were hired to help staff manage stress, develop personal resiliency resources, and assist staff coping with trauma. In the coming months we will be adding 2 additional social workers, and another clinician thereby building out support for staff in an unprecedented manner.

DOC Launched Mentor Captain Program

Through coaching, behavior modeling, and as counselors, Mentor Captains guide, teach, reinforce, motivate and support staff as they perform the duties of care, custody and control for the inmate population.



DOC Opened Veterans Unit

DOC unveiled its first-ever housing area dedicated to military veterans in April 2018. The Veterans Unit at the Anna M. Kross Center (AMKC) offers those in our custody, who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, a series of enrichment programs tailor-made to their history of service. The unit is staffed by correction officers and a correctional counselor with military experience.





Bail Reforms

In December 2018, eligible people in DOC custody can now pay their bail in a variety of ways, including:

Online, while they are detained at any of the 5 criminal courts. During their court visit using DOC's NEW bail kiosks. Loved ones can also pay bail at any DOC facility. The only exception to this rule is for bail payments for inmates housed at Horizon Juvenile Center which must be paid directly at that location.



Training and Development Unit

DOC launched a new Training and Development unit in September 2018. Since then, they have piloted a leadership development program for senior departmental personnel in collaboration with Dale Carnegie; launched the Agency's first credit-bearing certificate program in Corrections Leadership for uniformed staff in collaboration with John Jay College/ CUNY; and launched a monthly series of open enrollment courses for non-uniformed staff.

HAPPENING at DOC

Confronting Recidivism

On January 29th, DOC held its final Confronting Recidivism event in Brooklyn. One hundred and twenty formerly incarcerated individuals and 24 employers attended the event, and a few attendees even received job offers on the spot.



MWBE Vendor Event

DOC teamed up with the Mayor's Office of M/WBEs, NYC Small Business Services, and City Council Member Mark Gjonaj to host its 2nd Annual MWBE Enterprise Vendor event at Queens Borough Hall.



DOC invited to Participate in the Official September 11th Memorial Ceremony, Held at Ground Zero



"With the Department's help, we have been able to increase the number of profiles of individuals affiliated with the Department. We are actively collecting your stories and objects so that we may enhance how we document the Department's efforts, as well as 9/11's ongoing impacts on the health and well-being of your members who served in the recovery operation."

Anthony Gardner, SVP Government & Community Affairs, 9/11 Memorial & Museum

Career Fair with Councilmember Koo



DOC and Councilman Peter Koo partnered for a career fair at Queens Public Library.

Association of State Correctional Administrators Meeting



The New York City Department of Correction hosted the Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) Northeast Region meeting this September. Speakers included Commissioner Cynthia Brann, Staff Chaplain Justin VonBujdoss and Deputy Commissioner Michael Tausek.



Mental Health Training



"We've trained over 4,000 officers in mental health 'first aid,' and added a very strong mental health training component for our officers in the academy,"

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Nichole Adams-Flores, who oversees Health Affairs at DOC, said recently. "They learn about symptoms of mental illness."

DOC has two, key programs for housing inmates with serious mental illness. One is a high intensity, mental health unit called PACE. Another program, CAPS, was greatly expanded in 2014.

Cadet Education, Empowerment, and Development and Success (CEEDS)

Commissioner Brann welcomes the newest group of DOC Cadets in the DOC & John Jay College CEEDS program.





DOC Honors Our Heroes on Medal Day



Graduation and Promotion Ceremonies





DOC Hosted its 2nd Annual Rikers Run/Walk to Remember





New Trailers

Rikers Island–based staff will be receiving new trailers as part of the work for the Hurricane Sandy damaged North Shoreline Stabilization project.



Prometheus in Prison

Theater of War Productions, in partnership with the NYC Department of Correction Adult Programs Division - Fine & Performing Arts, presented the first-ever performance exclusively for DOC Members of Service.



Raised in the System Documentary Screening

Actor Michael K. Williams, Dominic Dupont and Dana Rachlin visited EMTC to screen their documentary "Raised in the System" which explores mass incarceration and the juvenile justice system.



DOC Launched Free Bus Service for Visitors to Rikers



"Communication that the inmates have with their family during this time of separation is crucial. We have found it helps improve conduct, the incidents go down as they are getting ready to go back into the community and it reduces recidivism." Chief of Department Hazel Jennings

New Library Opened at MDC



First Lady visited RMSC to Promote Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Awareness







In June 2018, the Department conducted a 2nd Organizational Health Survey to get a better understanding of the issues that impact staff daily.



Did You Know in 2018?

The Agency selected the GMDC Visit House to be renovated and turned into a Staff Wellness Center to provide services and support for DOC Staff.



In GMDC's place, Nutritional Services transformed EMTC's kitchen into a full service production kitchen in July 2018, and has produced over 9,000 meals.



Did You Know in 2018?

DOC started upgrading all the computers to the Windows 10 operating system and the latest version of Microsoft Office.



DOC's IT Department received 3 awards from New York City Technology Forum 2018 in October. The Best of New York Awards honored DOC for its "Excellence in IT Support and Services - Staff", "Excellence in IT Support and Service -Manager", and "Excellence in Project Management."



Did You Know in 2018?

The George Motchan Detention Center (GMDC) closed.



DOC introduced a multi-disciplinary team approach to reviewing inmates housed in Enhanced Supervision Housing. Consisting of unit team members from different disciplines (uniform and non-uniform staff, etc.), each member plays a specific role in determining an inmate's progression through the phase level system. During the collaborative review process, inmates regularly meet with the team to discuss their program participation and compliance with rules and regulations. Each discipline works cooperatively with one another to focus on the needs of each inmate with the ultimate goal of a successful transition to general population.



Did You Know in 2018?

DOC transferred 16-and 17-year-olds out of adult jail facilities on Rikers Island into the Horizon Juvenile Center in the Bronx.



The Academy developed, piloted and rolled out new training courses on topics ranging from Online Bail System, Visitor Pat Searches, Advanced Correctional Techniques (ACT), Use of Force Refresher Training, the ACT Defensive Tactics Refresher Training, and an updated version of Chemical Agents for Supervisors.



Did You Know in 2018?

The Academy successfully trained and graduated over 1,200 Recruits from the Correction Academy.



Did You Know in 2018? 7,113 candidates took the CO exam



With the support of the First Lady, DOC began implementing a series of initiatives to support women and those with substance abuse issues in custody.

- DOC launched an innovative program to offer incarcerated mothers an opportunity to play and bond with their children at the Manhattan Children's Museum.
- Created a specialized team that works to increase the number and the quality of visits that women receive, and enhance the visit area to promote positive interactions between women and their children.





Did You Know in 2018?

The Programs division introduced a wide variety of creative arts programming. For example, at VCBC which organized Beethoven on the Barge, a one-week concert and composition residency with Project Music Heals Us; inmates composed an original classical piece of music that was performed for the officers and general population.



IN MEMORIAM

DOC Remembers Those

We Have Lost In 2018.

Gone But Not Forgotten



TRANSFER REQUESTS GOING PAPERLESS IN JANUARY 2019!



All DOC Uniform Staff will Submit Transfer Requests Using an Easy, Accessible, Online Form on the DOC Intranet

THIS SYSTEM WILL REVOLUTIONIZE THE TRANSFER PROCESS:

- → Transfer requests will be received immediately
- → Time to fill out transfer forms will be shortened
 - → Paper wasted each day is reduced
 - ⇒ Staff will be able to track and update their transfer request
- Workplace efficiency, tracking and record keeping will be improved
 - → More Access Enhanced business centers will be opened at various locations













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