



Rehabilitation

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

Office of Correctional Education:

99 Dozen PCs

New Tools to Help Inmates Prepare for Electronic GED Exam



L-R Derek Papa, Aztec; Tam Tu, EIS; Gashaw Yilma, EIS; Wesley Odd, EIS; Minh Nguyen, EIS; Jim Cripe, OCE; Michael Kheyfets, Aztec; Jonathan Blitt, Aztec

The Office of Correctional Education has completed deployment of 1,188 student computers into academic classrooms in all CDCR adult institutions. These computers have specific software programs that help inmates prepare to take the General Education Development (GED) High School Equivalency Exam.

Students can access supplemental materials to help them prepare for their exams. Aztec Learning Essentials software is installed on these computers. Aztec programs cover basic literacy to high school courses. Students learn to type using Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing, which is essential for the new GED electronic testing.

Almost 4,400 inmates earned GEDs in FY 2013-2014, which was a 29% increase from the prior year.

Please contact Jim Cripe, OCE Supervisor of Correctional Education, Jim.Cripe@cdcr.ca.gov

In-Prison Programs: Steps Toward a

Today!

FUTURE



Options Recovery Services staff and Offender Mentor Certification Program Graduates

"I am extremely proud of not only these graduates who are committed to changing their lives and those of others, but all Central California Women's Facility inmates who recognize that positive change and the chance for a successful new life starts with themselves."
Deborah K. Johnson, Warden, CCWF

A group of female inmates at Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla took a significant step towards their future on January 10, 2015. Twenty four (24) women graduated from the Offender Mentor Certification Program (OMCP), which provides education and training to become certified Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) counselors. Administrative staff from CCWF, representatives from DRP, California Association for Alcohol/Drug Educators (CAADE), WestCare, Amity Foundation and OMCP program provider Options Recovery Services attended the graduation.

OMCP candidates must initially complete a Substance Abuse Treatment program. They also develop study skills and practical knowledge to document counseling and treatment activities, while working under the close supervision of a certified drug treatment counselor.

The candidates' next step is to successfully pass the written CAADE examination to become a mentor in the OMCP program. At that point, they will either remain at CCWF, transfer to Folsom Women's Facility or California Institution for Women to complete closely supervised 4,000-hour work experience counseling and mentoring other inmates. As in the initial training step, OMCP participants earn an hourly wage, which increases until they become certified mentors. Upon release, there are job opportunities for those inmates who completed their mentorship in various fields across the state.

Please contact Lt. Brian Davi, Public Information Officer, CCWF, brian.davi@cdcr.ca.gov.

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Rehabilitation

Today!

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

Arts in Corrections

Programs in theater, dance, music and art instill pro-social behavior, self-esteem and problem solving skills

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 and 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)

Single Level and Multi-Level Substance Abuse Treatment

Promotes positive social behavior and helps 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

Community and Reentry Services:

Fresno Parolees Pay It Forward 60,000 Toys for Tots

Parolees in DRP-contracted provider **WestCare's Residential Multi Service Center (RMSC)** and **Day Reporting Center (DRC)** in Fresno volunteered their time and effort to Fresno County **Toys for Tots**. Toys for Tots is a national campaign of the United States Marine Corps Reserves, with more than 750 individual programs. Toys for Tots' objective is that every child deserves a toy at Christmas. More than 60,000 toys were donated by Fresno County Toys for Tots to organizations for the 2014 holiday season.



RMSC/DRC clients worked in the Toys for Tots warehouse in November and December. They counted the donated toys and sorted them by gender and age (0-3, 4-7, and 8-12). Volunteers assembled orders for the approximately 200 organizations that receive toys to hand out to specified children. WestCare participants made these orders; carried heavy boxes, and loaded delivery trucks. At the end of each day they also cleaned the entire warehouse thoroughly.

"Without WestCare volunteers' participation, there would be no Toys for Tots of Fresno County. It was and always has been a pleasure to work alongside of them. Of course it is hard work, but volunteers come back each day with a smile on their face and jokes for the day. The Marine Corps League is truly thankful and appreciative."
Virginia Cardinal, Toys for Tots Co-Coordinator, Fresno County Marine Corps. League

Please contact Gary Knepper, WestCare, gary.knepper@westcare.com



HealthRIGHT 360 staff and inmates
Photo by Rick Scott, WSP Television Specialist

In-Prison Programs:

Wasco Single Level SAT Graduation

Submitted by Ismael Alomari, Correctional Counselor III, WSP

Wasco State Prison – Reception Center (WSP-RC), in partnership with HealthRIGHT 360, held its first graduation ceremony for the inaugural group of inmates to complete the Substance Abuse Treatment (SAT) Program at that institution on December 19, 2014.

Warden John Katavich along with HealthRIGHT 360 Program Director Holly Bishop and treatment counselors addressed audience, graduates, staff and program representatives with words of wisdom, encouragement and hopefulness for a brighter future. Program participants elected class speakers. Awards were given for participation, attendance, creativity and best sense of humor.

"Change is possible. You don't have to continue to live the life of an addict or a criminal thinker, a life of coming in and out of this prison system. You can bring an end to such a life but it begins with you wanting to change."

Michael Alvarez, SAT Program Graduate, WSP

The SAT Program at WSP-RC is a 150 day, **single-level SAT Program** that offers services to 96 participants. The single-level SAT utilizes a cognitive behavioral approach to treatment that was developed by the **University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute**. The participants are taught cognitive behavioral interventions for substance abuse. The curriculum also places emphasis on skill building for cognitive, social, emotional and coping skills.

Upon successful completion of the program, offenders meet with a transitional counselor for continued treatment planning and placement into a community based SAT program upon release. Eligible offenders may also earn milestone credits.

Newsletter Readers: Click on article words in blue font to learn more!



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DRP funds a growing network of focused evidence-based Community and Reentry Services throughout California to help offenders transform their lives and successfully reintegrate into society:

Computer Literacy Learning Centers (CLLC):

Offer computer-based courses provided by certified instructors for basic reading, writing and math

Day Reporting Centers (DRC) and Community Based Coalition (CBC):

Address parolee's needs through assessment and placement in classes and support services. One stop shop education, life skills, financial and employment training, substance abuse and counseling. Some transition housing available

Female Offender Treatment and Employment Program (FOTEP):

Provides gender-responsive residential treatment services for women and their children

Parolee Service Centers (PSC):

Provide group and family reunification, life, employment skills in residential program

Residential Multi-Service Centers (RMSC):

Helps at-risk parolees transition back into the community with housing, substance abuse treatment and independent living skills

Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP):

Provides comprehensive residential and outpatient programs and services supporting parolees needs for housing, substance abuse treatment, cognitive behavioral intervention, employment, education, family relations and community referrals

Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Program (STAR):

Provides substance abuse treatment education by certified instructors in select parole offices

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Office of Correctional Education:



Educational Excellence

OCE Staff Member Helping to Create the Best Correctional Education System in the World

Walter Wheeler, High School Teacher at Visions Adult School (VAS), [California State Prison-Corcoran](#), completed forty-five continuous full-time years in public and correctional education in December 2014. Ten years have been spent in California's correctional system; Mr. Wheeler was a School Psychologist at the Marie C. Romero High School, El Paso de Robles Youth Correctional Facility. When the youth prison closed in July 2008, Mr. Wheeler transferred to a teacher position at VAS, where he currently teaches Adult Basic Education (ABE) II/III classes.

Despite his extensive educational experience, Mr. Wheeler continues to be a student of his profession. He holds three mental health licenses through the [California Board of Behavioral Sciences](#) including Licensed Educational Psychologist, and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. He earned his third license in 2014 after successfully completing an internship, academic classes and state board tests, to become a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor. Mr. Wheeler has earned fourteen education credentials authorizing services at the kindergarten through grade fourteen (community college) in teaching, pupil services, and administration. He has taught a total of seventeen different subjects as an adjunct instructor/professor at Compton Community College, Porterville Community College, and Fresno Pacific University.

Mr. Wheeler thrives on the challenges from his inmate students who are reading below a 4th grade level: "Reading skills increase the prospect of doing well in other subjects and in increased self-esteem. Students with higher academic skill levels have increased opportunities for job training and employment both within the institution and upon their return to the community."

Please contact Bernice Van Klaveren, Principal, COR, Bernice.VanKlaveren@cdcr.ca.gov

"California State Prison—Corcoran, along with other CDCR adult institutions, dramatically increased the number of inmates earning high school diplomas or General Education Development certificates from 2013 to 2014 – a key objective for OCE. It takes a special type of educator, like Walter Wheeler, to help inmates master reading and writing skills that are fundamental job requirements in today's economy. Thanks to Mr. Wheeler and his peers, these inmates will have a strong chance for success."

**Brant Choate, Superintendent,
Office of Correctional Education**



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DRP has initiated a number of advancements to improve the effectiveness and efficiencies of rehabilitative programs:

E-Readers

Help offenders achieve milestone credits with increased access to college curriculum textbooks. Tablets, pre-loaded with Voluntary Education Program (VEP) textbooks, are provided to inmates enrolled in VEP college courses. Devices are checked, charged, updated and reissued for use by other inmates.



Enterprise Inmate Online Education Network

Secured inmate education network connects inmates to computers that enables use of online resources: internal centralized learning repositories, internet based certification programs, and distance learning environments.



Law Library Touch Screen Technology

Provides Administrative Segregation Unit inmates with electronic touch screen access to the Gilmore Law Collection as mandated by *Casey v. Lewis* court case. This also reduces time and costs required to escort high security inmates to the library.



Offline Digital Resource Library for Inmates

Uses technology to reduce education textbook and library collection costs by providing those items electronically to inmates in classrooms and libraries via an offline "internet in a box" concept.



Internet Protocol Television Integration

Supports adult basic education, career technical education, and college on multiple channel televisions for inmates, using more efficient technology.



Share the "R" in CDCR!

Please use this [handy link](#) or call (916) 323-3139 to order rehabilitative posters for your institution

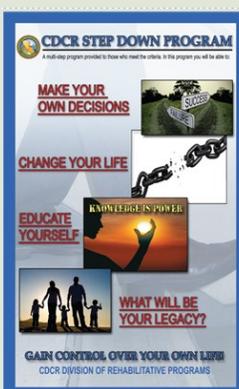
One order per facility; please allow 3 weeks for delivery

DRP Posters for Institutions

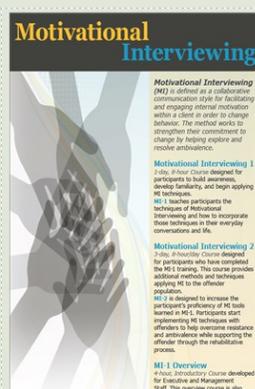
24" X 36"



1 (Male and Female Versions)



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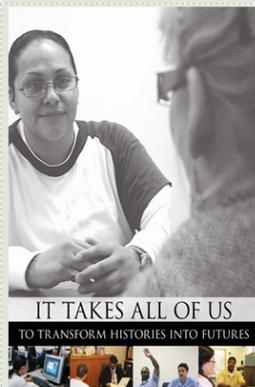
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18" X 24"



9 (Male and Female Versions)



10



11 (Male and Female Versions)



12

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