

September 6, 2013

Weekly Views

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility was selected to showcase the facility and its programs in the National Center for Youth in Custody (NC4YC) Webinar Finale. For the past year, NC4YC hosted a webinar series focused on improving conditions for youth placed in detention and correctional facilities. Logansport Juvenile was honored to participate in this webinar series which was viewed by juvenile justice professionals across the United States.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) welcomed new residents Purdue, Duke, Dakota and Brooks (pictured below with their handlers) to the Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) program. The Labrador puppies, who are four months old, instantly became the sweethearts of the facility. ICAN is an intensive two-year training program that uses 100% positive reinforcement in training dogs for people with special needs. The dogs will stay at CIF for approximately five to six months. Offender Roberts who has participated in the ICAN program for over a year said, "Training the dogs has helped me learn patience, to control my actions and to learn a lot about myself."



Federal Court Judge Tanya Walton Pratt and American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana Legal Director Ken Falk, along with members of their staff, toured the Pendleton Correctional Facility and met with facility and Central Office staff to discuss issues associated with the establishment of a new mental health unit at the facility. The meeting was extremely productive and both Judge Pratt and Mr. Falk expressed that they were impressed with the progress that has been made on this project.

Two groups of Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility residents spent the day out in the community spreading mulch at different locations around the city in participation with a Keep Indianapolis Beautiful project and landscaping the baseball field at Manual High School in preparation for game night. (see photo left)

Superintendent Stanley Knight is pleased to announce that the Putnamville Correctional Facility scored 100% on mandatory standards and 98.16 % on non-mandatory standards during an American Correctional Association reaccreditation audit conducted by a visiting committee of correction professionals from Michigan and Arkansas. During an exit assembly the auditors relayed how impressed they were with operations and sanitation of the facility, and professionalism of staff. Superintendent Knight also recognized staff for outstanding

service during a Facility Recall. Caseworker Ryan Mapes, Case Manager Karumathil Kumaran, Sergeant Joseph Barker and Officer Angela Sauro received Employee of the Quarter awards. Corizon employees Kathy Edrington and Theresa Straw were recognized for healthcare excellence, and Oakland City University teachers were recognized for their academic achievement of attaining an A+ for the quarter and academic year.

Six Madison Correctional Facility offenders successfully passed their state board exams to become licensed cosmetologists.

Special service for a holy baptism was held in the chapel at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) for an offender from X-row. This is the first time ever that an offender from this high security unit has come to the chapel for any reason. Present were ISP Superintendent Wilson, Lieutenant Wilson, Chaplain Harman, and Chaplain Diemer who officiated the service. At the end of the service, Superintendent Wilson offered words of encouragement and guidance to the newly baptized.

The Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) Baseball team came to the Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) to play two games of softball with the MCF All-Star team, made up of the most valuable players from the facility's softball teams. The IWU team consisted of 30 players and coaches. "It was a positive experience for both teams. We try to do this once a year," Scott Kenworthy, MCF Recreation Coordinator, said. It gives them a chance to play against people on the outside." The MCF All-Stars won both games.

Gone Fishing Ministries and Clear Water Ministries teamed up with Stillwater Retreat to hold a three day re-entry seminar over Labor Day weekend for the offenders at Chain O'Lakes Correctional Facility (COLCF). Presenters had the offenders focus on the first 180 days of freedom and recognize the old traps and hang outs that can lead to recidivism. They stressed the importance of finding a good church home and surrounding yourself with positive influences. Offenders were taught how to write a resume, obtain a credit report and create and follow a budget. On the last day testimonies were shared and the COLCF Choir was invited to perform. (see photo right)



Hunter Smith, "Hunter the Punter", a former player with the Indianapolis Colts, visited New Castle Correctional Facility and put on two Christian Rock shows. The shows were well received by the general population.

Ivy Tech Community College brought two Sociology classes to Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) for a tour. The facility allows students over age 18 to tour the facility and those under age can come in for a Straight Talk Program in the Visitation Room. During the school year, MCF will host between 20 and 30 school groups.