

## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

Arthur M. Wallenstein  
Director

### **PRRS Quarterly Chief's Report** *Issued 3/12/15 (Updates since December 4, 2014)*

#### **Highlights**

- 1. Successful State Audit:** PRRS successfully passed its major state audit with findings of 100% compliance. From February 3-5, the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards sent six auditors to review compliance with 76 standards that cover all correctional operations including security, programmatic, facility, financial, and food services. All Maryland jails and prisons must pass this audit once every three years. The audit consists of a thorough inspection of the facility, a review of paperwork documenting standard compliance, and interviews with staff members and current Residents. The auditors interviewed 14 randomly-selected Residents and shared that our clients expressed high morale, were deeply appreciative of the program, felt respected and supported by staff members.
- 2. Successful Federal Audit:** PRRS was found 100% compliant with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). PREA is a relatively new standard promulgated from a federal law signed in 2003 -- with final regulations issued in 2013 -- that covers all state and federal prisons. As the title implies, it seeks to eliminate all instances of sexual harassment and assault from correctional operations. While local correctional systems in Maryland are not required to seek PREA compliance, Montgomery County DOCR has chosen to do so in order to demonstrate its adherence to the highest standards of correctional practice. The PREA audit at the Pre Release Center occurred on February 17-19, and two auditors assessed PRRS compliance with 46 standards. They inspected the building, reviewed paperwork, and spent most of their time interviewing staff and clients. In the audit close-out, the chief auditor commented that all staff members demonstrated a complete understanding and commitment to upholding PREA standards, and were fully invested in the PRRS rehabilitative mission. He shared that the Residents expressed that they felt safe and respected at PRRS, and were appreciative of the services offered to them.
- 3. Behavioral Health Initiatives:** PRRS is fully engaged with three initiatives to address the increased prevalence of incarcerated individuals with serious and persistent mental (SPMH) and substance abuse conditions. As previously reported, PRRS is a chief collaborator with HHS on a new \$600K federally funded program that will divert SPMH individuals from the jail and place them in community-based settings like the PRC where they can receive intensive support. A second initiative also involves collaborating with HHS in using medication to assist those with serious substance abuse conditions. Several PRRS clients who are participating in the Drug Court are currently receiving the anti-opiate and anti-alcohol drug Vivitrol. Finally, PRRS is participating in a Behavioral Health Task Force charged with advising the Health Montgomery Steering Committee that reports to the County Executive. The Task Force has developed three priority recommendations, one of which is the establishment of a 24/7/365 "Reception Center" that would serve to receive individuals in behavioral health crises and divert them from emergency rooms and the jail. First responders could choose to bring these individuals directly to the center.

**Program Developments**

1. **PRC Career Services:** PRRS has rebranded its career resource services as the “Workforce Academy” and a large banner now hangs in the cafeteria with its new name and its mission of “Preparing Returning Citizens for Employment and Success.” As importantly, the Academy’s programs have been revamped to accelerate and improve employment search and retention. Career Resource Specialist Ms. Joyce Reimherr has scheduled more workshops and training sessions conducted by employers and outside providers, has changed the daily job readiness morning meeting, has introduced new job-matching technology, and has reorganized and better presented important job-related materials throughout the Academy’s two computer labs and the larger cafeteria area which is used for job search purposes in the morning and afternoon.
2. **GED Computer Lab:** PRRS has established an 8-station computer lab to support the onsite GED program taught by an instructor from Montgomery College. The lab is equipped with instructional preparatory software that can be used during evening classes, and will be configured to allow Residents to take the GED test directly. Beginning in 2014, the GED test changed in two ways: it now conforms to national curriculum standards and is administered entirely online. The lab will better prepare students for acquiring the enhanced skills and knowledge required of the new test and will improve their test-taking computer skills.
3. **Restitution Policy Change:** Beginning April 1, PRRS will implement an automatic restitution deduction from Residents who are working and earning income. The financial management program that governs Resident’s escrow accounts will track and calculate required monthly deductions. For those Residents whose incomes fall below the required federally-set threshold to require them to pay restitution, the Resident Management System will divert the program fees that they pay to the county – which are not subject to a minimum earning threshold – to the restitution funds. These changes are implemented to bring PRRS in compliance with a change in state law in 2014 that requires that payment for restitution before payment for program fees.
4. **Spanish Speaking Residents Increasing:** Last fall, PRRS changed its screening process to conform with the County Executive’s letter to Councilmember Nancy Navarro dated Oct 7, which states “Montgomery County will no longer comply with ICE detainer request except for those requests that have adequate support for a finding of probable cause under the Fourth Amendment (search and seizure).” Under current procedures, PRRS no longer contacts the Immigration, Custom, and Enforcement agency to ask if foreign-born Residents are subject to future deportation.
5. **National Coalition of Prison Ministries Gift Exchange:** On December 13, 31 children of 19 Residents received gifts courtesy of the NCPM which represents over 21 faith-based organizations in Montgomery County.
6. **Smoking Cessation:** The Maryland State of Health and Mental Hygiene provided a grant to the County’s HHS Cancer & Tobacco program which enables them to offer a smoking cessation class at PRC every Wednesday. Besides education, participating Residents can receive nicotine patches or gum to assist them desist from smoking.
7. **Multi-Cultural Youth Center:** PRRS staff met the director of this program based in Silver Spring which serves individuals 18-24 in a program that provides training in construction skills as

well as GED preparation. Run by the Latin American Youth Center, this non-profit has the county contract to run the Conservation Corp program.

- 8. Voter Registration:** PRRS had identified a volunteer who will provide voter education and assistance to Residents at PRRS. For individuals with criminal histories and under correctional supervision, their eligibility to vote depends on specific factors related to the type of offenses they have incurred and whether they have complied with court-required payments.

### **Security**

- 1. Escapes:** No escapes occurred since the last CAC meeting.
- 2. Critical Incidents:** Two Use-of-Force incidents occurred in the quarter involving subduing Residents for disciplinary transport who were under the influence of synthetic cannabinoids. No injuries occurred. In a December, a Use-of-Force was required to handcuff an individual who refused to cooperate in a disciplinary suspension back to the jail. The second incident involved two Residents who screamed for medical assistance on the overnight shift. They admitted to using synthetic cannabinoids and required medical transport to the hospital by the police.
- 3. Suspension and Administrative Removal Increases:** Over the past three months, PRRS has seen an increase in disciplinary incidents and suspensions as well as an increase in administrative removals. The Division is conducting a review to determine the factors that might explain this increase. Over 50% of those returned have had diagnosed mental health conditions.

### **Facility**

- 1. American with Disability Act Renovation Project:** The PRC Front Lobby and public bathrooms will be renovated beginning in April under a multi-phase project that continues to improve the accessibility of PRRS to individuals with disabilities. The parking lot and outside ramps were completed in 2014, and this second phase should be completed in June. Phase 3 will involve renovating five Resident rooms and three bathrooms along with the medical area. Phase 4 is planned for this summer and will make renovate the outside courtyard.
- 2. Video Surveillance System:** PRRS has received approval to upgrade equipment and software to enhance the use of this system as an investigatory tool.

### **Personnel Changes**

#### **1. Full-time Staff**

- Case Manager Correctional Specialist III Darrel Coach retired on February 26 after 15 years of dedicated service. Coach -- as he preferred to be called -- provided outstanding services to his clients and was a delightful and generous colleague to all.
- Resident Supervisor Anntoinette Roberts joined PRRS on 2/23/15. In 2014, RS Roberts was an intern at PRRS and previously had been an intern with Adult Probation. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of New Haven.
- Case Manager Correctional Specialist III Yvette (Eva) Cocozzella joined PRRS on March 11. She is a licensed clinical social worker who was a Case Manager with the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless for three years, and has also worked as a mental health therapist with other non-profit providers. She also was an intern at PRRS in 2008. She earned her

Bachelor of Art in Social Work from UMBC@Shady Grove and a Master of Social Work from the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

**2. Collaborators/Interns**

- Montgomery College Professor Joel Levine joined PRRS in February to teach Workplace Digital Literacy to all new Residents Monday through Thursday from 5:30pm – 7:00pm. Joel has over 30 years of educational experience teaching computer applications, accounting, economics and paralegal studies, and also teaches at MCCF and at Our House in Olney. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in Community Health Education, and a Master's of Arts in Health Care Administration from the George Washington University.
- Cynthia Hernandez joined PRRS as an Academic intern for the Spring Semester and has been assigned to the Career Resource Center. She is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from Trinity Washington University and will be graduating in 2015.

**3. Training/Professional Development**

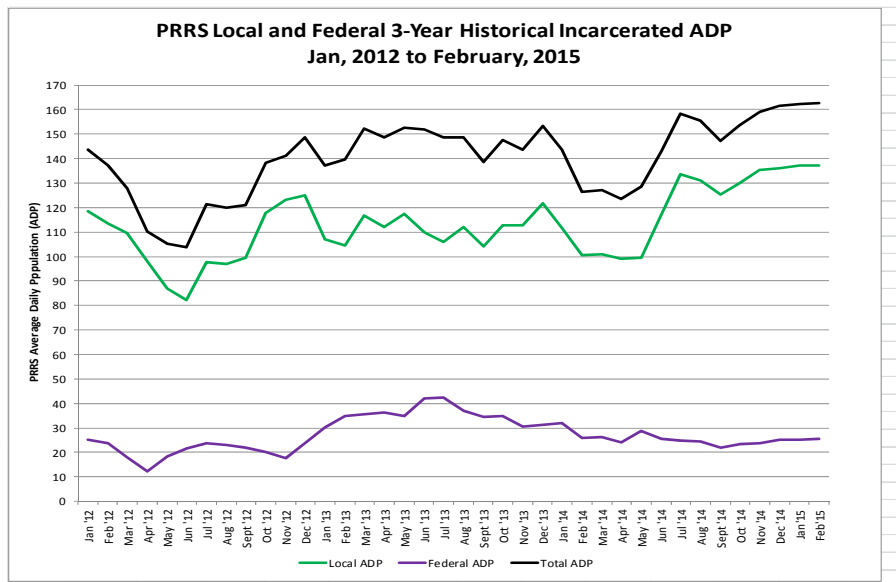
- Case Manager Ayodeji Durojaiye was selected from PRRS to join the Department's Critical Incident Stress Management Team. This team will receive training to respond to assist and comfort correctional staff if they encounter a crisis or traumatic event while working in a DOCR program and facility.

**Program Statistics**

*Population Served*

	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015
<b>PRRS Average Daily Population</b>	<b>161.5</b>	<b>162.4</b>	<b>162.7</b>
<b>Local Jail Resident Subgroup</b>	<b>136.2</b>	<b>137.3</b>	<b>137.3</b>
<b>Federal Resident Subgroup</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>25.5</b>
<b>Female Subgroup</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>18.0</b>
<b>Home Confinement Subgroup</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>12</b>

**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**

Work Release Statistics (February 2015)

Work Release Performance Measures														
DATE: February 2015														
Employed Residents										Unemployed Residents				
Unit	Wed 12am Count	Community Employment > 32 Hours Per Week	Community Employment 31- 25 Hours Per Week	Community Employment < 25 Hours Per Week	Inside Employment (FN2)	Approved Alternative Placement (FN3)	Total	Community Work Employed %	Work Release Engaged %	Transfer < 21 Days	Transfer > 21 Days	Total	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate Net New Arrivals
1	22	10	1	0	4	0	15	50.0%	68.2%	5	2	7	31.8%	9.1%
2	49	24	5	0	4	5	38	59.2%	77.6%	8	3	11	22.4%	6.1%
3	45	13	7	2	5	0	27	48.9%	60.0%	8	10	18	40.0%	22.2%
4	57	19	7	1	8	1	36	47.4%	63.2%	12	9	21	36.8%	15.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>51.4%</b>	<b>67.1%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>32.9%</b>	<b>13.9%</b>

Footnote 1: Data collection on Wednesday using midnight count and inclusive of releases later that day. (Data entered in green cells only)  
Footnote 2: Individuals are assigned to inside worker status for programmatic and security reasons.  
Footnote 3: Individuals approved due to medical/disability/retirement factors

Figure 3

Income Earned by Program Participant

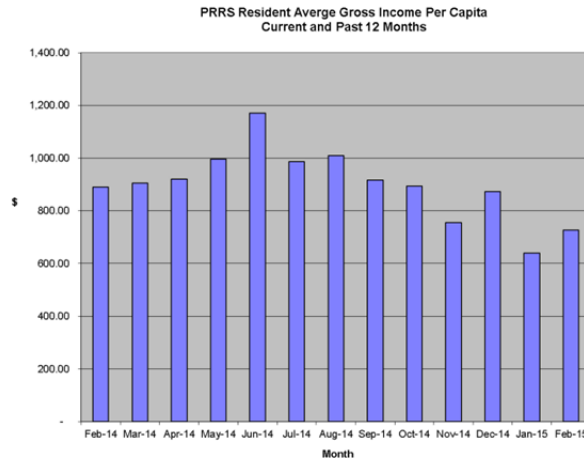


Figure 4

Resident Income, Fees, Taxes, Disbursements, and Release Payments

Resident Income, Program Fees, Taxes, Disbursements, and Release Payment Statistics													
Month	Gross Income	Program Fee	Taxes	Final Pymt	Other	Family Support	Petty Cash	Incidentals	Counseling	Legal Fees	Restitution	Fines	
Feb-14	112,483.22	23,119.32	20,250.10	22,564.30	12,020.15	16,208.38	8,223.61	1,955.00	716.87	0.00	2,020.53	100.00	
Mar-14	114,978.97	19,427.76	20,042.57	17,983.41	13,488.50	11,842.67	9,257.65	1,688.02	200.00	500.00	0.00	0.00	
Apr-14	109,901.98	20,943.26	19,603.02	30,846.89	8,939.56	19,991.00	9,307.10	2,377.00	820.75	100.00	300.00	0.00	
May-14	127,938.05	21,889.47	22,504.22	22,764.11	10,634.69	7,360.00	11,120.46	7,775.70	655.25	-	175.00	50.00	
Jun-14	161,871.62	23,031.45	35,152.44	12,431.30	11,780.23	19,343.00	10,591.00	2,326.00	265.00	100.00	1,950.00	145.00	
Jul-14	156,279.24	27,297.43	33,200.54	25,102.95	10,957.65	17,648.41	11,341.06	4,725.00	185.00	175.00	720.00	435.00	
Aug-14	156,860.57	27,431.56	32,543.78	40,334.98	13,650.89	17,825.00	14,026.73	2,170.00	98.00	175.00	150.00	50.00	
Sep-14	134,765.95	22,678.14	27,324.77	19,643.53	17,987.49	16,302.98	12,570.99	2,585.00	142.00	-	115.00	400.00	
Oct-14	137,111.04	25,074.61	26,628.73	22,947.57	10,311.95	15,987.00	13,905.55	4,290.00	30.00	118.00	885.00	176.50	
Nov-14	120,353.12	20,507.89	23,614.83	23,801.96	6,068.63	11,966.64	10,782.35	4,583.00	-	-	150.00	6.00	
Dec-14	144,971.56	26,732.47	24,914.49	21,731.84	11,767.16	12,057.00	13,138.75	4,109.39	165.00	200.00	2,701.85	316.78	
Jan-15	103,785.46	20,919.05	18,219.78	16,915.90	8,036.97	7,986.00	12,085.75	2,184.41	-	2,065.00	250.00	-	
Feb-15	118,218.63	25,638.57	20,519.71	30,659.15	11,787.74	7,455.00	11,233.12	3,185.00	-	500.00	650.00	-	
<b>% Change</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>46%</b>		<b>-76%</b>	<b>160%</b>		
<b>Average</b>	<b>130,732.26</b>	<b>23,437.77</b>	<b>24,963.00</b>	<b>23,671.38</b>	<b>11,340.89</b>	<b>13,997.93</b>	<b>11,352.62</b>	<b>3,381.04</b>	<b>252.14</b>	<b>302.54</b>	<b>774.41</b>	<b>129.18</b>	

Figure 5

Program Exit Statistics

PRRS Program Exit Statistics														
Month/Year	Exits by Resident Type				Program Exit Type								Median Length of Stay in PRRS	Employment % for Time Served Released
	Total	Local	Fed	Drug Court	Time Served	%	Revocation	%	Admin Removal	%	Escape	%		
March-14	39	29	6	4	34	87.2%	2	5.1%	3	7.7%	0	0.0%	91	64.7%
April-14	41	28	7	6	36	87.8%	4	9.8%	0	0.0%	1	2.4%	83	77.8%
May-14	39	26	8	5	30	76.9%	6	15.4%	2	5.1%	1	2.6%	87	90.0%
June-14	32	24	6	2	25	78.1%	3	9.4%	3	9.4%	1	3.1%	81.5	80.0%
July-14	43	36	5	2	32	74.4%	8	18.6%	3	7.0%	0	0.0%	93	81.3%
August-14	50	49	9	0	39	78.0%	7	14.0%	4	8.0%	0	0.0%	94	70.0%
September-14	40	32	5	3	30	75.0%	7	17.5%	3	7.5%	0	0.0%	98	80.0%
October-14	48	35	8	5	41	85.4%	2	4.2%	5	10.4%	0	0.0%	84.5	56.1%
November-14	43	36	5	2	36	83.7%	4	9.3%	3	7.0%	0	0.0%	96	77.8%
December-14	43	33	6	4	35	81.4%	6	14.0%	2	4.7%	0	0.0%	81	68.6%
January-15	44	39	5	0	34	77.3%	9	20.5%	1	2.3%	0	0.0%	69	58.8%
February-15	49	38	6	5	37	75.5%	10	20.4%	2	4.1%	0	0.0%	106.5	81.1%
Total	511	405	76	38	409	80.0%	68	13.3%	31	6.1%	3	0.6%	88.7	73.8%

Figure 6

Escape Data

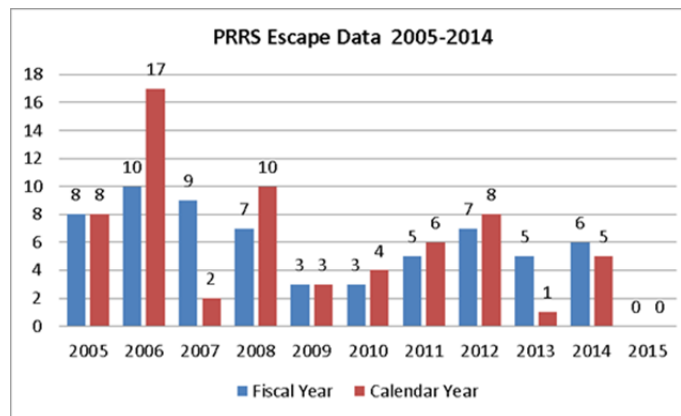


Figure 7

Recidivism

PRRS Recidivism Reconviction and Return Indices					
Release Index	Months/Years of Release	# of Records in Timespan	# of Individuals with >=1 Convictions	Average Days to Charge	Conviction and Return Rates
1 Year	Total	611	57	146	9.3%
3 Year	Total	602	183	390	30.4%
Notes					
1. Data gathering 7/13 - 3/15 and new data is collected monthly on PRRS prior releases.					
2. Recidivists events are tabulated for those released one year and three years prior.					
3. Recidivism and Return indices are defined as convictions or violations of probation and parole during one and three years. Arrests and pending matters are not included.					
4. Probation before Judgement, non-incarcerable traffic, and charges that are nolleed, dismissed, or result in a not guilty finding are not treated as convictions.					
5. Criminal Justice data used from MD Judiciary Case Search, County CJIS, FBI NCIC, and other data accessible through the MD METERS CJ portal.					

Figure 8