



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION

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County Executive

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Director

PRRS Quarterly Chief's Report
June 8, 2012 to September 13, 2012

Highlights

- 1. Selection of Shannon HS Murphy as Deputy Chief of Programs and Services Shannon:** Ms. Murphy joined PRRS in her new position on September 10, and brings significant experience and capability to this critical leadership position. Please see the attached handout which describes her distinguished background and the significant responsibilities of her position.
- 2. Resident Supervisor III:** Gary Awkard, Andre Stepp, Jasper Ezeigbo, Mark Myrick, Ivan Downing, and Ja Rowe were promoted to this new working supervisor classification at PRRS. Created in collaboration with MCGEO, the RS III position became effective September 9 and is deployed on all shifts and on all days to ensure that essential duties are performed. The RS III will take the lead in emergency and staffing issues. The six RS III positions replace six existing RS I/II positions, so the overall complement of Resident Supervisors remains at 29, and collectively they provide 24/7/365 coverage for the program.
- 3. Case Management Position Upgrade:** Effective August 26, the program's ten Case Manager Positions were upgraded to Correctional Specialist III classification which reflects their increased responsibilities and skills used and needed to perform their duties. This classification review concludes a process that began over five years ago and one where the DOCR Leadership and MCGEO worked in collaboration.
- 4. Special Assignment Resident Supervisor Positions:** Two existing Resident Supervisor positions were made special assignments to address critical programmatic needs. After a competitive selection process, Resident Supervisor II Karla Rhodes was chosen as the Accreditation Officer for PRRS. She has primary responsibilities to prepare PRRS for regular audits by outside agencies and accrediting bodies. Through a similar process, Resident Supervisor II Danilo Chamorro was chosen to serve as the Maintenance and Work Crew Supervisor. In this role, Danny will oversee maintenance at PRRS including tracking requests for service from the County's Department of General Services, and performing light carpentry, painting, plumbing, and electrical projects himself and with the help of Residents. Residents will learn valuable skills and assist in the general upkeep of PRRS. In addition, Danny will lead groups of Residents to perform Community Service projects in Montgomery County.
- 5. Employer Forum on Hiring Individuals with Criminal Histories:** Jobs Opportunity Task Force, PRRS, and Montgomery Works' Workforce Solution Group have planned a forum at the Pre-Release Center intended to educate employers on the challenges and opportunities of hiring individuals with criminal histories. The forum is scheduled for September 20 from 12:30pm to 2

pm, and will feature presentations by experts in legal issues related to the use of criminal records in hiring and promotional decisions, an employer, and a former resident. Please see attached handout for more information.

Program Developments

- 1. Federal Bureau of Prison Full Annual Audit (July 17-19):** The FBOP conducted its annual audit of PRRS and found no deficiencies in program operations. The audit consisted of an inspection of the Center, interviews with staff and Federal Residents, and reviews of paperwork. The auditors credited PRRS for its healthy and respectful interactions/culture between residents and staff. The cell phone policy was also recognized as helpful. They did make recommendations to improve the organization and content of case files and to address some maintenance issues particularly in the bathrooms on the units. PRRS is addressing both recommendations.
- 2. Cell phone Policy:** PRRS developed and implemented a cell phone policy July 1 that allows residents to keep and use cell phones at the Pre-Release Center with authorization. The phones have no video recording or internet capabilities and serve to assist residents contact their families, help with their employment searches, and increase the ability of the Pre-Release program to contact individuals in the community. To date, the new policy has proved very successful.
- 3. Program –Focused Case Management Position:** PRRS will deploy one of its existing Case Management positions to develop and teach an evidenced-based Cognitive Skills program, and to revamp other programs offered to residents and their families. When fully staffed, PRRS will solicit interest among existing Case Managers for this position.
- 4. Career Resource Center Work Release Coordinator:** When fully staffed, PRRS will deploy a fourth Work Release Coordinator to oversee all day-to-day activities of Career Resource Center. In addition, they will have primary responsibilities for job development, and both functions will significantly improve the quality of career assistance services offered to Residents.
- 5. GED Program:** PRRS hired a Master's Student from John Hopkins who provides GED instruction three days a week.
- 6. Workplace Digital Skill Training Program:** Instructor Barry Gross from Montgomery College began teaching Tier 1 of this federally funded program which provides basic computer skills to all new residents. Tier 2 which offered intermediate skills was discontinued for lack of interest. Tier 3, which allows Residents to pursue technology classes at Montgomery College, is running well and attracting good participation. This federal grant will close-out this fall after two years of providing services. Some elements of the program will continue to be offered by PRRS including the Tier 1 training program.
- 7. Farm to Freezer:** PRRS is assisting a new non-profit start-up in Bethesda which aims to use the surplus vegetables from locally grown produce left over at the end of the farmers market in Bethesda to help the needy and homeless. Affiliated with Bethesda Cares, some of the produce is used for the lunches provided by the program and other produce is transported to Manna Food Center. The organization is also exploring freezing some of the produce for sale to support the program expenses. Weekly, PRRS Residents, under the supervision of a PRRS Intern, assists the program by collecting the produce and transporting it to different locations.

Work Release Statistics

Work Release Performance Measures														
DATE: August 1, 2012 (FN 1)														
Employed Residents										Unemployed Residents				
Unit	Wed 12am Count	FT Employment > 32 Hours Per Week	PT Employment 31- 25 Hours Per Week	PT Employment < 25 Hours per Week	PRRS Work Assignment (FN 2)	Approved Alternative Placement (FN 3)	Total	Employed %	Work Release Engaged %	Transfer < 21 Days	Transfer > 21 Days	Total	Unemployment Rate	Unemployment Rate Net New Arrivals
1	11	5		1	2		8	54.5%	72.7%		3	3	27.3%	27.3%
3	58	24	2	3	3	2	34	50.0%	58.6%	7	17	24	41.4%	33.3%
4	56	25	3	9	5	1	43	68.1%	78.8%	7	6	13	23.2%	12.2%
Total	125	54	5	13	10	3	85	57.6%	68.0%	14	26	40	32.0%	23.4%

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 for education or community service due to education needs and/or medical/disability/retirement factors														

Personnel

1. Arrivals

- Deputy Chief of Programs and Services Shannon HS Murphy (See highlights above)
- Bertha Kufa joined PRRS on August 13, 2012 as the new Accountant/Auditor in the Accounting Office. Ms. Kufa has over six years of public accounting background with an emphasis in auditing non-profit organizations and performing compliance audits. In 2009, Ms. Kufa earned a Master's Degree in Accounting and Information Technology from the University Of Maryland University College in College Park, Maryland. She is a certified fraud examiner and affiliated with American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Institute of Internal Auditors.

2. **Nursing Position:** DOCR's Health Service Administrator Tony Sturgess selected Marcia Durant for the one-year special assignment as the Community Health Nurse at PRRS. Ms. Durant has worked at PRRS over the past two years, and recently earned her Bachelors Degree in Nursing from the University of Phoenix.

3. Professional Development

- Resident Supervisor David Luu completed a five-week state Correctional Academy on June 29.
- Resident Supervisor Summer Norris completed a new seven week state Correctional Academy on September 5, 2012.
- Resident Supervisors Mark Myrick, Gary Awkard, Ja Rowe, Jaspas Ezeigbo, Andre Stepp, Ivan Downing completed first line supervisory training along with Deputy Chief of Security and Facility Ben Stevenson. The course, which is mandated by the stated, was taught by DOCR training staff at the Pre-Release Center from August 3 to August 10.
- Deputy Chief Ben Stevenson attended a mandated two-week leadership and management course provided by Maryland State Training Commission.

4. Promotions

- Don Meyers was promoted to the Work Release Coordinator position effective 8/12/12. Don was a Case Manager and had served in an Acting capacity for one year prior to his selection in a competitive process.

- Resident Supervisor IIIs were selected and described above.

Security/Facility

1. **Storm Event:** PRRS sustained some minor damage and a short power outage due to the violent storm that occurred on June 29. Several trees fell including one on Unit 4. PRRS staff handled the Derecho storm event well, and staff and residents remained safe. Operations resumed soon after the storm passed and power was restored to the facility.
2. **Opening of Unit 2 on September 17:** Due to increases in the DOCR population, PRRS will open Unit 2 next week. The closing of the unit in April has saved overtime expenses and has allowed the Division to paint and clean the unit.

Escapes

Four escapes to report in Calendar Year 2012

1. On March 13, Deonta Williams plead guilty to a first degree felony for his escape from the Pre-Release Center on 1/12/12, and was sentenced to 18 months.
 2. On May 30, Larone Smith plead guilty to a first degree felony for his escape from the Pre-Release Center and was sentenced to 4 years to the state prison system.
 3. Michael Carnate is facing first degree felony charges for his escape from the Pre-Release Center on 4/11/12. He has pleaded guilty and will be sentenced on October 2.
 4. On July 27, 2012 Lamar Butler escaped from PRRS when he failed to return from an approved activity in the community. He was apprehended by Montgomery County Police the next day, and is now facing a second degree escape charge.
- On July 13, Geoffrey Mosby was given seven years of "back-up time" for violating his conditions of probation. While on the Pre-Release program, Mr. Mosby left the facility on 9/21/11 on an approved pass and was found unaccountable in the community with allegations that he shoplifted a coat.

Population Served

Month	June	July	Aug
PRRS Average Daily Population	103.6	121.4	119.5
Local Subgroup	82.1	97.6	96.6
Federal Subgroup	21.5	23.8	22.9
Female Subgroup	10.4	11.2	10.1
Home Confinement Subgroup	12.1	16.5	15.1

Visits/Events/Meetings

1. 6/13/12: PRRS was represented at the Open House of the new Washington DC office of the Vera Institute.
2. 6/15/12: PRRS Staff visited the Maryland Baltimore Pre-Release Unit which is part of the state Division of Correction.
3. 6/25,26/12: PRRS staff participated in the escape trial of Geoffrey Mosby.
4. 6/27/12: PRRS conducted a facility wide meeting to discuss the new Cell phone policy.

5. 6/28/12: PRRS participated in a day long review of Correctional Workforce issues conducted by the Council of State Government.
6. 7/3/12: Correctional professionals from Saudi Arabia visited the Pre-Release Center.
7. 7/10/12: PRRS hosted a visit by Lieutenant Sean Songco of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Criminal Section. Lt. Songco heads up their fugitive section which is called in for assistance on all PRRS escapes.
8. 7/11/12: Interns from Montgomery County's District and Circuit courts visited the PRC.
9. 7/19/12: Staff from the Vera Institute visited the PRC and MCCF.
10. 7/30/12: Peggy Howard from the Newport News Sheriff's Department visited the PRC.
11. 7/31/12: PRRS staff testified on behalf of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department's accreditation process.
12. 8/2/12: PRRS staff met with the County's compliance taskforce on the American with Disabilities Act to address some accessibility issues at PRRS.
13. 8/3/12: Division Chief Stefan LoBuglio participated in roundtable at Rutgers University that was convened in the aftermath of several critical articles in the New York Times about the poor state of Halfway Houses in New Jersey.
14. 8/16/12: A Nigerian TV crew sponsored by the U.S. State Department visited PRC.
15. 9/5/12: Davidson County Sheriff's Department staff visited the PRC.
16. 9/5/12: A Criminal Justice policy class from the Universities of Shady Grove held a class session at PRC and had the opportunity to speak with current PRRS Residents.
17. 9/9/12: PRRS Resident Supervisors began their new schedules that will last till February 2014.