

GEO[®] World

4Q
2013

A GEO Publication for Employees and their Families.



Desert View Modified Community Correctional Facility



Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility



Rendering of Alexandria Transfer Center



The GEO Group Signs Contracts for

Reactivation of Two California Facilities
and New Immigration Transfer Center

Chairman's Letter

George C. Zoley
Chairman, CEO and Founder

To the GEO Family,

During the third quarter, our company achieved several important milestones with the signing of three important contracts for the development of a new company owned and operated facility and the reactivation of two existing company owned facilities along with the issuance of \$250 million in corporate bonds at very competitive interest rates.

On September 9, 2013, we announced the signing of a new five-year contract, including renewal options, with U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) for the development and operation of a new 400-bed Immigration Transfer Center in Alexandria, Louisiana, as an annex to our 1,160-bed LaSalle Detention Facility in Jena, Louisiana.

This important project represents an expansion of our existing relationship with ICE in the state of Louisiana and is representative of our company's ability to build on our long-standing client partnerships.

GEO will develop the new company-owned Center, which is expected to be completed during the fourth quarter of 2014, for approximately \$20.0 million. Under our management agreement with ICE, we expect to generate an additional \$8.5 million in annualized revenues.

On September 23, 2013, we announced the signing of two five-year contracts with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for the housing of 1,400 medium security California inmates at the 700-bed Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility and the 700-bed Desert View Modified Community Correctional Facility located in McFarland and Adelanto, respectively.

The reactivation of these two company-owned facilities will play a key role in helping meet the need for correctional bed space in the State of California and is expected to generate approximately \$30.7 million in combined annualized revenues.

These important operational milestones were complemented by the issuance of \$250 million in senior unsecured notes due 2022 at an interest rate of 5⁷/₈%, which represents a very competitive rate given the recent increase in interest rates nationwide.

The issuance of these senior notes will allow us to buy back our existing \$250 million in senior notes due 2017 which have an interest rate of 7³/₄% and will give us additional flexibility to pursue quality growth projects as we continue to deliver innovative and cost efficient services for our clients; create exciting opportunities for our employees worldwide; and enhance value for our shareholders.



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The GEO Group Signs Contracts for

Reactivation of Two California Facilities and New Immigration Transfer Center



700-bed Desert View Modified Community Correctional Facility

During the third quarter of 2013, The GEO Group (GEO) achieved three important milestones by entering into separate contracts with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for the development of a new Immigration Transfer Center in Louisiana and the reactivation of two company-owned Modified Community Correctional Facilities in California, respectively.

Reactivating Two Existing GEO Facilities in California

On September 23, 2013, GEO announced the signing of two contracts with the California Department of

Corrections and Rehabilitation for the housing of 1,400 California inmates at two existing company-owned facilities in California: the 700-bed Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility and the 700-bed Desert View Modified Community Correctional Facility located in the communities of McFarland and Adelanto, respectively.

These two Modified Community Correctional Facilities were built by GEO in the 1990s and provided high quality services for the State of California for close to two decades before being deactivated in late 2011. The reactivation of these facilities will play an important role in help-

ing meet the need for correctional bed space in the State of California and will strengthen GEO's long-tenured partnership with the communities of McFarland and Adelanto.

GEO will operate the facilities under five-year management agreements with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation following the intake of inmates in the fourth quarter of 2013. The new contracts are expected to generate approximately \$30.7 million in combined annualized revenues.

Building on GEO's Long-Standing Partnership with ICE

On September 9, 2013, GEO and U.S. Immigration Customs and



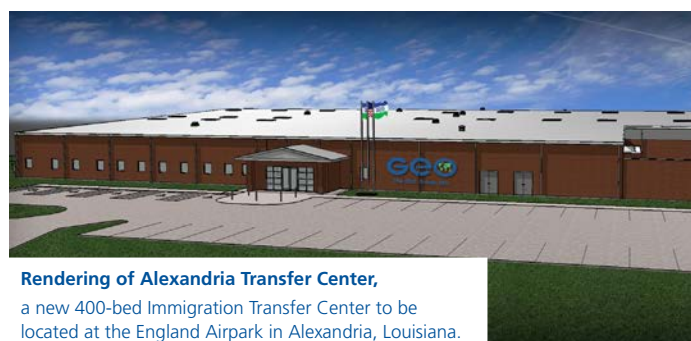
700-bed Central Valley Modified Community Correctional Facility

Enforcement (ICE) signed a contract for the development and operation of a new 400-bed Immigration Transfer Center to be located at the England Airpark in Alexandria, Louisiana.

The new Center will be financed and developed by GEO for approximately \$20.0 million. This important project represents an expansion of an already long-standing contractual relationship between GEO and ICE in the state of Louisiana, where GEO owns and manages the 1,160-bed LaSalle Detention Facility in the town of Jena, which has been helping meet the need for federal detention bed space in the Southeastern United States and providing high quality services since 2007.

GEO will manage the new company-owned Transfer Center in Alexandria, Louisiana, when it is completed during the fourth quarter of 2014, under a five-year agreement which is expected to generate approximately \$8.5 million in additional annual revenues.

These important milestones are representative of the continued demand for cost efficient correctional and detention bed space at the state and federal level and are a testament to GEO's ability to provide effective solutions to address the ongoing needs of its diversified client base.



Rendering of Alexandria Transfer Center,
a new 400-bed Immigration Transfer Center to be located at the England Airpark in Alexandria, Louisiana.



England Airpark Terminal
By the fourth quarter of 2014, GEO will operate and have developed a new Immigration Transfer Center at the England Airpark in Alexandria, LA.

GEO Holds 2013 Leadership Conference



The 2013 GEO Leadership Conference was held Monday, September 16th through Friday, September 20th in Palm Beach, Florida.

Opening Remarks

Monday morning, conference attendees were welcomed by John Hurley, President, GEO Corrections & Detention and Jorge Dominici, Senior Vice President, GEO Community Services. Mr. Norm Carlson, former Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons and a member of GEO's Board of Directors, brought greetings on behalf of the entire GEO Board of Directors. Other Board members who were present included Anne Foreman, Richard Glanton, Chris Wheeler, and Clarence Anthony.



Company Overview

Following the opening remarks, GEO's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, George C. Zoley provided an overview of the company. Dr. Zoley's presentation highlighted GEO's recent conversion to a Real Estate Investment Trust and touched on other important milestones including the activation of five facilities during 2012. The presentation also focused on GEO's increasingly diversified service platform, which now includes leading industry positions in all key market segments: corrections, detention, community reentry services, youth programs, and electronic monitoring.



Company Growth

Dr. Zoley also provided an in-depth presentation of GEO's current growth opportunities. Dr. Zoley's Company Growth presentation provided details on important opportunities being pursued by GEO and its subsidiaries at the Federal and State levels in the U.S in the corrections, detention, and community reentry market segments.



Operating Costs Trends

Monday's presentations also included a review by GEO's Chief Financial Officer, Brian Evans of GEO's conversion to a REIT, 2013 financial performance and operating costs trends, and a number of business management cost savings initiatives.



Contract Compliance, Risk Management, and Federal Oversight

Tuesday morning, GEO's Vice President of Risk Management, Tom Boyer provided an overview of risk management and insurance trends. Additionally, GEO's Executive Vice

President of Contract Compliance, Patricia Persante and her team provided an overview of GEO's contract compliance department and processes, and GEO's General Counsel, John Bulfin and his team reviewed current trends related to Federal oversight.

General Counsel and Human Resources

On Wednesday, GEO's General Counsel, John Bulfin presented on litigation trends, and GEO's Senior Vice President of Human Resources, Steve Fuller reviewed several human resources related accomplishments and initiatives aimed at improving employee wellbeing.

Reentry and BI Presentations

The general session ended on Wednesday with insightful presentations from Reentry Services Divisional Vice President, Loren Grayer and BI's Divisional Vice President, Ann Schlarb. Conference attendees learned about GEO's community reentry services as well as BI's location/electronic monitoring and immigration supervision business segments.

Break Out Sessions

Throughout the conference, attendees participated in break out meetings that focused on their respective departments, divisions or regional offices. These important breakout sessions had the participation of GEO's Senior Management Team, including Dr. Zoley.

Team Building Event

On Thursday evening, conference attendees participated in a team building event which allowed participants to build camaraderie and work in teams toward a common goal.

Closing Dinner

On Friday evening, conference participants enjoyed a closing dinner, which featured the presentation of the Warden of the Year Awards to David Cole, Warden of the LaSalle Detention Facility, and Bill Zerillo, Warden of the Queens Detention Facility, for 2011 and 2012 respectively.

Special Thanks

GEO's 2013 Leadership Conference was a resounding success thanks to the incredible efforts of Nicole Fehrman, Barbara Gioia, Latoya Copes, Noelle McCarthy, and Rosa Suarez as well as GEO's IT team who year in and year out do a wonderful job of planning and organizing every detail of the conference behind the scenes.

GEO Officer Of The Year

Blanca Zavala

Val Verde Correctional Facility



"On a daily basis her exceptional performance is shown, as she always requests a fast paced and more challenging duty post."



We are very proud to announce that Blanca Zavala was selected as the Correctional Officer of the Year, for the Val Verde Correctional Facility. Officer Zavala has been employed at Val Verde since June 2009. For the past 2 years, Officer Zavala has been assigned to first shift, 6am-2pm; however when speaking with her supervisors, they all expressed a high degree of respect and appreciation. On a daily basis, her exceptional performance is shown as she always requests a fast paced and more challenging duty post.

Officer Zavala's professional appearance and exceptional work ethic have proven to be very effective in her day to day interaction with inmates, visitors and fellow officers.

Officer Zavala displays her team player abilities on a daily basis. Her supervisors tell us Officer Zavala is the first officer to arrive for duty to ensure that all reports and forms are organized and distributed accordingly.

Officer Zavala said she enjoys working at Val Verde and hopes to seek promotional opportunities in the future; however at the present time she says first shift works for her.

Officer Zavala says her only other dedication besides her job, is her family. She was raised

in Del Rio, Texas. She graduated from Del Rio High School in 1985. She says she was active in all sports during school. Officer Zavala and her family are members of the Guadalupe Catholic Church. Her hobbies outside of work include biking, horseback riding and taking long walks.

Officer Zavala says her time-off from work is spent with her family including her mother, Jesusita Zavala; sister, Rosa Maria Zavala; and niece, Crystal Jasmine Vigil-Zavala. Officer Zavala said she has dedicated her time-off to help care for her aging mother.



CTDF Awards

Scholarships For High School Graduates

Written By **Raquel Gamez**, Central Texas Detention Facility

C TDF and The GEO Group Foundation partnered with Bexar County Commissioner Paul Elizondo and the San Antonio Independent School District Foundation to award five, \$1,000 scholarships to local San Antonio graduating seniors.

The graduates were a part of their local high school's Police Explorer group. The recipients were awarded the scholarships according to their Academic and Extracurricular Activities. They were required to submit a 200 word essay stating why they thought they were deserving of the scholarship and expressing their financial need for the scholarship. They were also required to provide three letters of reference.

The first recipient, **Andre Richardson** from Thomas Edison High School, will be attending Sam Houston State University and will major in Business Finance. The second recipient **Nathan P. De Hoyos**, from Thomas Jefferson High School, will be attending Texas State University. The third recipient **Michael A. Garcia** from Thomas Jefferson High School, will be attending Texas State University and will major in Criminal Justice.

The fourth recipient **Joseph Garcia** from Sidney Lanier High School, will be attending Sam Houston State University and will major in Criminal Justice. The fifth recipient is **Christine Estrada** from Sidney Lanier High School will attend Del Mar College, and she will major in Criminal Justice.



Michael A. Garcia



Andre Richardson



Joseph Garcia



Nathan P. De Hoyos



Christine Estrada

Relay for Life

Written By **Tina Paul and Betty Beckham**, LaSalle Detention Facility



Left to right: Assistant Warden Indelacio Ramos, Morgan Tarpley from The Jena Times, Mary Faulterman, Director for the LaSalle Parish Relay for Life and Warden D. C. Cole presenting the check to the American Cancer Society; Beach Basket: Administration, and Duck Dynasty basket: Finance.

The LaSalle Detention Facility (LDF) participated in its 2nd annual Relay for Life event for LaSalle Parish on Friday April 19, 2013 at the Jena High School football field.

On behalf of LDF, The GEO Group Foundation donated \$3,470.71 to benefit the American Cancer Society. Prior to the event, several fundraisers were held. Those functions included a Jail and Bail, Split the Pot, Bake Sale, Brisket Sandwich lunch sale for staff and the community, and a basket raffle. The basket ideas came from several departments within the facility. Ideas included a beach basket, fishing basket, Duck Dynasty basket, a Bayou Classic 24 quart stock-pot with cooker and a Food Basket with a \$40.00 gift certificate to Picou's Restaurant and an assortment of food supplies for fish fry. Everyone enjoyed how they were wrapped up and presented on the

official event night at Jena High School. It was exciting to see the participation among staff and the community. In all over \$32,000 was raised within the Parish district for the American Cancer Society.

Giving back to the community is very important to our staff here at LDF and this is one event we all look forward to each year. We are already gathering ideas for 2014!





Taking Care of Our Own

Written By **Laura Rodriguez, Maverick County Detention**

June 14th and 15th were a couple of days that Maverick County and the City of Eagle Pass will not forget. Experiencing the norm of dry hot summer days pretty much throughout the year, this area was inundated with an immense amount of rain in a very short period of time. The result was flooding equating to a great deal of damage to homes and other property.

Maverick County Detention Center (MCDC) was locked in by road closures going into Eagle Pass on Highway 277 and towards Brackettville on Texas Highway 131. The only way in and out of the facility was to go North on Highway 277 towards Del Rio and take a big loop around which

is approximately 175 miles one way arriving in Eagle Pass. Implementing an immediate emergency plan, correctional officers and other necessary staff were advised that they would be staying at the facility over night. Val Verde Correctional Center assisted by sending food packages for the employees to ensure that the staff was sufficiently provided for.

“MCDC has several employees that lost everything they owned and yet still reported for work.” comments Deputy Warden David Lomas. The dedication of the staff is noteworthy especially during critical times and there were many others who provided real-time information to those who remained at the facility.

We come together once again, as a GEO team and as a family, to take care of our employees most afflicted by this disaster. The Regional Staff sent a counselor, MCDC staff provided donations of needed items, and the staff along with Val Verde Correctional Center hosted a burger combo fundraiser. The effort is truly commendable!

Planning for disasters such as this may not be an easy task, but it is one that with effort can alleviate some stress in the outcome. We are thankful to our sister facility, for being there for us, and the entire staff at MCDC. Coming together to take care of our own could not have been executed any better.

Robert A. Deyton's Community Involvement

Written By **Garry Ross, Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility**



The Kiwanis Club of Lovejoy, whom our facility supports whenever they have a function, invited staff to their second annual scholarship 5K which was held on February 23, 2013. The 5K helped raise money to offer a scholarship to a hard-working student in Lovejoy High School's graduating class. On a particularly cold and wet morning, five staff members and two spouses came out in support! We are always excited to have family members support our activities.

Left to Right: At the finish line! Training Administrator William Baker, Transportation Manager Alexander Satcher, MIS Specialist James Peavey, Chief of Security Herbert Walker, Executive Secretary Myra Richardson and Mrs. Debra Carter-Satcher (spouse). Not pictured is Mrs. Leslie Baker (spouse).



Plainfield STOP Facility's P.L.U.S Garden Brings Organic Produce to Area Food Bank

Written By **Crystal Crews**, Plainfield Indiana STOP Facility

A unique community service effort at the Short Term Offender Program (STOP) facility in Plainfield, Indiana, is supplying a local food bank with quantities of organic produce. At the heart of the effort, which is being undertaken by the facility's Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program, is a one-third of an acre organic garden that staff and inmates planted in May.

As the garden got underway, the STOP Facility's Community Involvement staff reached out to a food bank at Plainfield's St. Mark's Episcopal Church, with an invitation to accept food from the garden. Each week, the church serves 280 area families with a variety of food services, including county-wide meal deliveries, weekly free lunches

and a free food bank. In 2012, the church's food bank provided food for about 2,500 families and 8,500 individuals.

By early July, a variety of offender-raised vegetables began showing up at the church's food bank. Thanks to the effort, to date food-needy residents have received 1,037 lbs, and counting, of organic peppers, tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers and other chemical-free and nutritious vegetables.

The decision to establish an organic garden arose from the fact that a facility staff member is a master gardener with extensive experience in organic gardening. The garden quickly proved to be educational as well as a community service opportunity, with

offenders, many of whom had little or no knowledge of organic gardening practices, learning how to control pests and fertilize without insecticides and other chemicals.

To maintain the garden, about eight inmates have averaged about 35-40 hours of week weeding, watering and harvesting.

"This is our way of paying it forward," an offender who has been involved in the garden recently wrote in an essay about his experiences. "We donate all the food to the food bank. We carry five gallon buckets of water to water the garden. All the work is volunteered, with no pay involved. The pay is knowing we are helping to feed hungry children."

Written By **Garry Ross**, Robert A. Deyton Detention Facility

Wherever There Is a Need



The staff at Robert A. Deyton began the month of August on a mission. The mission for the staff was to help someone in need from our community. The facility received an invitation to participate in a fundraiser Deputy Dash 5K, from the Henry County Sheriff's Office, to support the local Habitat for Humanity. The race was a huge success with sixteen staff members pre-registering and participating; two of which James Peavey and Marcus Lockett received 3rd place awards in the category for fastest runner in their age groups. Other than the good feeling one receives from doing a good

deed, this type of selflessness builds positive relationships for the facility, with the community, governing officials, and other law enforcement agencies. These are the kind of deeds that place the Robert A. Deyton staff head and shoulders above the rest in our profession.

We Stand Together; Dayton Dashers at your service. Left to Right: Ennis Pitts, Marcus Lockett, Herbert Walker, Garry Ross, James Peavey, Larry Truitt, Angelo Brown, Monique Shepard, Kimberly Winchester, Myra Richardson, Darlene Anderson, Stacey Dowd, Tarolyn Allen and Bonetha Stevenson. Not pictured Janice Chain and Robert Boyd.

L.I.F.E. Lessons Learned

Written By Richard Burke, New Castle Correctional Facility

The **Leadership Initiative for Excellence (L.I.F.E.)** program is the rapidly expanding offender facilitated character based program that hopes to change corrections. Initially founded by UTM Dan LeFlore in 2010, the program is currently under the supervision of UTM Richard Burke. The program was a response to members of the New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF) Dorm Representative Committee that saw a need to empower fellow members on the committee who lacked certain social skills needed to be effective as representatives for their respective housing units.

LIFE is broken down into 7 modules which take approximately 16 weeks to complete. Each module is facilitated by an offender team which rotates every module and every class. The LIFE modules educate and stimulate discussion on topics consisting of: Diversity, Communication, Problem Solving, Conflict Resolution, Stress Management, Values & Ethics and Change. These modules are designed to stress personal accountability and morality. Further, the modules attempt to re-train the criminal thought patterns of the offenders.

The ultimate goal of the program is to change not only the participants, but the culture of the facility on the whole.



The program, while still in its infancy has begun to show positive results. Graduates of the program serve as leaders and role mod-

elers to other offenders at NCCF. The demand from offenders to be enrolled in the program is such that a cue has developed with the third and fourth class rosters already set.

"It is my hope that by sprinkling the seeds of leadership and personal accountability amongst the population, one day we will reap the reward of a positive prison environment in which successful re-entry is the common goal of the offender population." -UTM R. Burke CCM

As the program carries forth, it does so with the commitment of a forward thinking ad-

ministration. Assistant Warden for Re-Entry, Jennifer French has been a supporter of the program since its inception and dedicates her time as a guest speaker in the program. Warden Keith Butts encourages his staff to accentuate the positive opportunities in the facility. "Spend 90% of your efforts on the 90% of the population that is trying to do the right thing." To date, twenty-six offenders have completed the program.

Locked Up For "Good"

Written By Raquel Gamez, Central Texas Detention Facility

MDA Executive Lock-Up

The Verdict

"After careful review of the evidence presented I feel I have no choice but to find every last one of you guilty. I have never seen a case this out and dry. You did the crime, you did the time!"

The individuals at the San Antonio Executive Lock Up had various warrants out for their arrest. The crimes included, but were not limited to:

- having a big heart
- caring for others
- wearing a coat in public
- sharing their good fortune with others
- a sunny disposition

Top Ball Raisers
that sent 2 kids to camp!

Waymon Barry	\$2405
Waymon Barry	\$2065
Paul Hix	\$1065
Scott Brown	\$1040
Stanley Lopez	\$1025
Wesley Miller	\$1015

When all was said and done we raised over **\$39,021!**

If you are still trying to get a hold of people for donations, your website will be open until October 17, 2013. You can also mail in any checks or cash that you receive to: MDA South Texas / 8810 Broadway St. / Suite 200 / San Antonio, TX 78217

Truth be told, we are very grateful for your participation and help with this entire process. We had a great time getting to know all of you and it was fun to be able to spend some time together at the event.

We look forward to seeing you behind bars in 2014!



On August 15, 2013 Warden Waymon Barry was served by two San Antonio Police Officers with a warrant for his arrest. the charge: having a big heart, caring for others, and sharing his good fortune with others. Warden Barry was arrested and taken to the MDA Executive Lock Up for Good at Boudro's The Vault; a bail of \$2,000.00 dollars was set by the Honorable Judge Ms. Teen San Antonio.

Guess what? Warden Barry raised the \$2,000 and then some; as a matter of fact he raised \$2,405 dollars for MDA and was the top fundraiser for the cause.

The Verdict: He's guilty of having a big heart. Congratulations Warden Barry we all knew there was a kind heart in there. Thank you friends and staff for all the help in getting his "bail" made.

Picnic Time

Again at WRDF

Written By Rosalie Knoll,
Western Region Detention Facility

Summertime is fun and family time for employees at the Western Region Detention Facility. I can't think of a better way to relax than to bring out friends and family for food, fun and fresh air. About 250 employees and guests came out to Admiral Baker Park to feast on steak, chicken, hamburgers and of course, hot dogs.

Our vending company loaned us a freezer for ice cream treats, plus we had various fruits and yummy nachos. Vegetable kabobs were prepared by staff the day before and grilled by the ultimate grill masters Jeff Wolf and Eric Perez. A jump house also was provided so the kids could work off some excess energy and if that wasn't enough, there was entertainment, games and contests provided by Fun Seriously. Lines formed with kids and adults alike for caricature drawings and face painting.

There were some energetic employees forming groups to play basketball, horseshoes, and tennis. One could notice how sore some of the employees were at



work the following week. Rosa Valdez accompanied Michael Foote to do all the food shopping and she also had a blast making gift bags for the kids. Lucky for us, staff assisted with setting up, keeping things going and the fun part, cleaning.

Thank you to Officers Joseph Eikamp, George Wohlgenuth, Monty Ramos, Cedric Williams, Luis Zendejas, Patricia Randolph,

to Sergeants Jose Carrillo and Ernesto Carlos, and to Lieutenant Michael Smith who are so supportive in all we do.

I can't leave out Kathy Ramos who helped and was the sole seller of raffle tickets for our 50/50 cash drawing. Congratulations to Officers Augusto Mones and Laura Panduro who were the two lucky winners. In all, everyone had a fantastic time.



Pictured Going Clockwise:

Kids enjoyed face painting and activities with the clown; Security Supervisors enjoying their day in the sun and having fun with each other; Officer Cendejas and Sergeant Carrillo about to enjoy the kabobs hot off the grill.



GTI Corner

GEO Transport, Inc. Sets The Standard High

Written By **Peter Provencher**, Eastern Regional Office

From the east to west coast and everywhere in between GTI (GEO Transport, Inc.) is delivering safe and secure detainee and prisoner transportation with service second to none!

GTI Facilities throughout the country have recently and successfully gone through comprehensive Motor Carrier Compliance Inspections with outstanding results. The Georgia Department of Public Safety Motor Carrier Compliance Division, Texas Department of Public Safety Motor Carrier Bureau, and California Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Safety Division inspectors conducted comprehensive inspections of all passenger carrying vehicles such as buses and vans. All of the vehicles were inspected in accordance with the “Level I and Level V - North American Standard (NAS) Inspection Procedure”, which is an internationally recognized safety inspection procedure.

The NAS Inspection examines all of the following: driver’s license, medical examiner’s certificate and waiver, alcohol and drugs (if applicable), driver’s record of duty status/hours of service (as required), seat belt, vehicle inspection report, as well as the brake system, coupling devices, exhaust system, frame, fuel system, turn signals, brake lamps, tail lamps, head lamps, lamps on projecting loads, safe loading, steering mechanism, suspension, tires, van and open-top trailer bodies, wheels and rims, windshield wipers and emergency exits on buses. Inspections must be performed and Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance

(CVSA) decals affixed by North American Standard Level I and/or Level V certified inspectors. The term “certified” as used in this section means the government employee performing inspections and/or affixing CVSA decals must have first successfully completed a training program approved by the Alliance. CVSA decals, when affixed, shall remain valid for a period not to exceed three consecutive months. Vehicles displaying a valid CVSA decal generally will not be subject to re-inspection.

The North American Standard Level I and Level V are the only inspections that may result in issuance of a CVSA decal. To qualify for a CVSA decal, a vehicle must not have any violations of the items contained in this operational policy and North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria. **All GTI vehicles passed and received CVSA decals.**

GTI has three Qualified GTI-DOT Safety Compliance Managers who manage GTI operations of twenty-one GEO facilities. Patrick Donnelly for Western Region, Luis Cuellar for Central Region, and Peter Provencher for Eastern Region.

The GTI compliance managers have successfully completed comprehensive training conducted by instructors who are industry leading experts with the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). The GTI Compliance managers conduct various GTI-DOT Safety Compliance Inspections throughout the

country to insure the company maintains the highest level of operational readiness. The GTI inspections are thorough and are intended to duplicate an actual Federal USDOT Motor Carrier Inspection.

Along with DOT compliance our GTI compliance managers have developed an 8 hour course specifically designed for transport and off-site detail. The training team has traveled to several facilities throughout the company with great response from officers and the facility leadership. The GTI Compliance managers coordinate quarterly safety meetings to monitor and determine the root cause of safety incidents to reduce the risk and exposure to our company assets and our most valuable resources, our GTI employees. Since 2007, GTI has transported 1.4 million detainees to date which equates to 1,400 detainees in our vehicles daily and 18.9 million miles driven to date which equates to 16,000 miles driven daily with no escapes.

The GEO Air Operations is also coordinated by the GTI Managers and have to date transported over 5,270 Detainees on behalf of Department of Corrections for Arizona, California, Alaska, and Idaho.

It is evident by the recent Department of Public Safety Motor Carrier Compliance Division DOT inspections and the GTI Safety record throughout the country that the GTI mission to provide safe and secure transportation of detainees and inmates with quality service second to none is being fulfilled!

Fighting Strong

Written By Brandon Shepp & Shihpei Stevenson, Northwest Detention Center

When staff on swing shift heard that Officer Matthew Wood's five-year-old son, was going to start chemo therapy in a few days, they decided to take actions to support the little boy. They were going to shave their heads and present their bald pictures on a poster for him.

Officer Opgenorth, a professional hair dresser for many years prior to joining GEO, volunteered to cut their hair. She did a marvelous job. Staff then proudly took pictures with their bald heads. "Fighting Strong" was written in large, bold letters in the center of the poster. Officer Wood has been telling his son to fight strong since the fight began. They taped the pictures along the sides of the poster, then staff took a group photo with the sign prominently displayed in the middle of it. Finally, staff signed the poster wherever there was a blank spot.

Their Shift Supervisor, Lt. Shepp, commented, "It showed a great amount of team spirit for the shift to come together like this to make a child smile." Word got out and many more staff members shaved their heads in support of Officer Wood and his family, even at the time of this writing. Northwest Detention Center's action will be remembered and appreciated for many years to come.



Pictured Top Row to Front Row, Left to Right; **Fighting Strong:** Officer Thomas Kemp, Officer Mark Knape, Officer Allen De Guia, Officer Scott Jones, Officer Timmy Regan; Officer Edward Staggs, Officer Brett Lange, Lt. Brandon Shepp, Officer John Blochowiak, Officer Douglas Whiting; Officer Renea Opgenorth; Officer Clarence Grayson, Officer Justin Watts, Officer Ashlee Orabanec, Officer John Bunch, Officer Gustavo Laguer, Officer Matthew Wood; Officer Nathaniel Roger, and Officer Jack Wilson.

Introducing

The GEO Share PTO Donation Program

Written By Traci Wright, HR Corporate Headquarters



Are you suffering from illness or need to care for a family member but you are out of PTO hours? Well with GEO's new program, GEO Share, you may be able to receive some much needed help.

Introduced in July, GEO Share is a new program which allows employees to come together and help those in need through PTO donation. Any employee on FMLA who has exhausted their PTO (or Vacation) can benefit from the program by receiving up to 80 hours of donated time.

Best of all, anyone can donate, as long as they are in the same Region or Division, and have more than 40 hours of unused PTO time. Plus, the donor(s) can remain anonymous if they wish.

All full time employees with at least one year of service are eligible to participate in the program as either a Recipient or Donor.

So far, the GEO Share Program has been well received since its inception. A total of nine employees have been able to take advantage

of this benefit, and many donors have come forward to help a co-worker in need.

If you feel GEO Share can benefit you, please see your Human Resources Representative or contact Traci Wright at Corporate Headquarters. Either can discuss additional requirements with you to ensure you qualify, and provide you with the necessary application.

Purposeful Living Units Serve Program

P.L.U.S Volunteer program is where offenders can leave criminal thinking and behaviors behind, to help raise money for their community.

Written By **Mike Smith, New Castle Correctional Facility**

The P.L.U.S. Program (Purposeful Living Units Serve) is a voluntary, live-in, Faith/Character based program for offenders in the facility with a desire to leave criminal thinking and behaviors behind. It's an opportunity for them to live and work in a structured environment and find new ways of behavior while focusing on core values such as honesty, respect, tolerance and provide some form of Community Service.

In addition to raising and donating money to local charities, some of the projects this year included the making of quilts, bird houses, neck warmers for angel worx, and their signature item the floppy eared rabbits for the elderly, and local Law Enforcement Officers gave items to children when called upon.

Here are some pictures of the quilts, which received first & second place ribbons at the local county 4-H Fair, and a special "Orville Redenbacher" quilt on display at the Indiana State Fair. For those that are unfamiliar with the name Orville Redenbacher, it is a popular brand of popcorn from the Midwest. In addition to the quilts, the program built some Bird Houses to be placed at various points around the county parks. The Henry County Parks Department has requested some additional bird houses.

The essence of the program at New Castle Correctional Facility is having the participants of the program always looking for and developing ideas that will not only impact their local community, within the confines of the prison, but that will also benefit the larger community surrounding the facility.



CACF Assists in getting Pinal County Foster Kids outfitted for 2013 School Year

Written By **Sheryl Augstums, Central Arizona Correctional Facility**

When state child protective services decides it's time for children to leave their parent's home, the next steps can be very challenging and confusing. As the population in Pinal County grows, so do the number of child welfare cases. In Pinal County, there are 851 children in the foster care system and over 1,500 in Arizona.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteers act as the judge's eyes and ears for a child's case and sometimes even accompany the kids into the courtroom. This can make a huge difference in a child's life at such a scary time. Arizona is one of few states that provide funding to the CASA organization directly, via state lottery funds. However, these funds barely cover the necessities of food and shelter. This is one area Central Arizona Correctional Facility (CACF) is happy to help out.



Left to right: CACF staff Leah Kempton, Bob Rowland, Casey Simmons, Anne Rubbert, Sheryl Augstums, DW Billy Massingill, and CASA volunteers Lynda & Rosie.

For the second year, CACF has organized a backpack to school drive. This year, Swing Shift led the way by exceeding the challenge to meet a goal of 1,000 points to earn a pizza party. The points were awarded according to the type of donation (backpack being 10 points, a pack of pencils being 2 points, etc.) Once they got the momentum going, the other shifts and staff joined in.

Before long, the bounty consisted of dozens of backpacks, and hundreds of folders,

notebooks, composition books, pens, pencils, crayons, markers, glue sticks and more that was stored awaiting pick-up by CASA volunteers. The supplies were distributed at a Pool Party hosted by the Pinal County Foster Care System.

CACF received a big thank you along with a report that distribution day was hot, the pool was cool, the pizza was delicious and there were lots of excited kids, a little more ready, to start a new school year.



Special Olympics of Texas Breaks Ground on New Headquarters

Written By **Danna Coapland, Central Region Office**

Every year, for the last fourteen years, the Central Region has hosted an annual golf tournament benefiting the Special Olympics of Texas (SOTX). The goal was to raise enough money to help SOTX build their own headquarter space, which is currently leased. On September 6th, 2013, The GEO Group and Special Olympics of Texas reached that momentous milestone.

SOTX hosted a ground breaking ceremony at the site of the new headquarters in Austin. The ceremony included passing the Flame of Hope which ended with the lighting of the official Special Olympics cauldron. Once the flame was lit, ground was broken by Danna Coapland, Director of Business Management from the Central Region Office along with Amber and Steve Mostyn of Houston. The GEO Group is responsible for donating the lead gift of \$2 million to the campaign. The GEO Group contributions along with the contribution from the Mostyn family account for two thirds of the expected cost of the facility. The new 20,000 square foot statewide headquarters will contain offices, meeting space, teleconferencing facilities, as well as a family resource center which will benefit coaches, volunteers, athletes, and medical professionals. “Our new headquarters will be a game changer for us,” said Rudy Lopez, chairman of the SOTX Board of Directors. “Owning a permanent building will allow us to maximize the impact of all donations and better serve the needs of the athletes.”

“The GEO Group Central Region Special Olympics Golf Tournament has turned into an event that our staff, clients, vendors, and families look forward to each year.” said Danna Coapland. “It is inspiring to watch such a large group of employees come together each year to encourage and celebrate our wonderful athletes and their families. We are very lucky to be part of the Special Olympics family.”

The annual golf tournament is the culmination of the previous twelve months of fundraising by all of our Texas facilities. Every year the units come up with innovative ways to raise money for SOTX, and they combine those contributions with their payroll deductions to help us reach our goal. At the golf tournament, Reed Smith, Vice President of the Central Region, hands out awards to all of our facilities and recognizes their contributions. This past spring, Rio Grande Detention Center was recognized for the largest contribution of \$15,000, and Karnes Civil Detention Center was recognized for raising the most money per person, averaging just over \$90 per employee. Our dedication to Special Olympics of Texas doesn’t stop here. Our focus will now turn to raising the additional funds needed to complete construction. The Central Region looks forward to the day we can welcome the entire SOTX community to their new home.



“The GEO Group is responsible for donating the lead gift of \$2 million to the campaign...Every year the units, (The GEO Group’s Texas Facilities), come up with innovative ways to raise money for Special Olympics of Texas, and they combine those contributions with their payroll deductions to help us reach our goal.”

Pictured Going Clockwise: Danna Coapland delivering speech on behalf of The GEO Group; Danna Coapland breaks ground at the new headquarter location for SOTX; Central Region Team Jimmy Marr, Danna Coapland, Christine Casmedes, Jimmy Dugger, and Jerry Light attending the SOTX Groundbreaking.

Golden State staff was startled, when they noticed a hawk had entangled itself in one of the interior fences of the facility. It appeared the feathered creature was attempting to dive from the air towards the ground to capture its next meal and misjudged the fence.

Golden State officer's Melissa Barrientos, Eduardo Chavez, Roy Velyines, Jerry Foster, as well as Fire & Safety Lieutenant Debbie Ince sprang into action to rescue this protected species. Grabbing a box and a sheet they set out on their mission. As soon as they got close to the bird it became untangled from the fence and it landed on the ground.

This complicated the process because the bird was now mobile. The makeshift rescuers then decided to corral the bird into a

corner and cover it temporarily in order to capture it. The bird turned out to be more of a challenge than they thought it would be, but eventually they were able to subdue the animal and take it into custody. They noticed one of its wings was injured.

Now what? Where do you put a protected animal so that it doesn't run into more problems? With cities and wildlife areas encroaching on each other in California, cases of wild animals entering populated areas are becoming more common. Staff decided to give the California Living Museum (CALM), in Bakersfield, a call to see if they had room at their facility. Fortunately, they were able to take the hawk and nurse it back to health so it could be released back into the wild.



I Quit Tobacco Contest

Written By Glenn Hryniewicki, HR Corporate Headquarters



Glenn Smith, Rivers Correctional Institution, with grandson, Hunter.

In August, we kicked off the "I Quit Tobacco" contest to reward employees who quit using tobacco. The rules were simple. In 500 words or less, we wanted to hear from "quitters" as to whom or what inspired them to quit, any tips that they could offer others who want to quit, and how quitting changed their lives. So far, we have received 51 clever and sincere responses and have already awarded two employees with a \$100 gift certificate.

Our first winner was **Glenn Smith**, Quality Assurance Specialist, at the Rivers Correctional Institution. Glenn was inspired

to quit with the arrival of his grandson Hunter. He said "I knew that I was not the shining example when it came to oral hygiene because of my bad habit. In January of 2012, I made a new year's resolution to quit smoking and placed an order for smokeless tobacco." Glenn's advice to others included, "Get a partner or two. You can never get enough encouragement and once you have other people involved, you are far less likely to fail. Find something that lets

you quit gradually. Keep trying no matter how many times you have attempted in the past. Celebrate and reward yourself for quitting." After three months of no tobacco use, Glenn visited his dentist and after several cleanings "my mouth was much healthier and I was able to smile again. I can brush my teeth in the mirror with my grandson now and set that example."

Derek White, MIS Specialist, at the Blackwater River Correctional Facility creatively submitted his testimony by writing it to the tune of the television show, "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air" and became our second winner. Derek was so creative with his submission that we decided to print it as is.



Derek White

Now this is the story all about how my life got flipped, turned upside-down, and I'd like to take a minute, just sit right here. I'll tell you how I became smoke-free last year. In North Pensacola, born and raised, smoking cigarettes is how I spent most of my days. Chilling out, maxing, relaxing all cool, and chillin with my friends outside of my school. When I met a hot babe, I knew she was the one. She said "you gotta quit smoking or this relationship is done!" I went to the doctor and he prescribed me some drugs. My fiancé was happy and she gave me a hug. If anything I could say that this wasn't easy, But I thought, "nah, forget it, this smoking is sleazy". I quit after a month and I never looked back. And I thought to myself that smoking was whack! I looked at my wife, who was filled with cheer. I could now live my life without cancer to fear!

A third winner is just on the horizon. We look forward to sharing the story with you in the near future. Thanks to everyone who submitted their testimonies. We hope that they have inspired others to "kick the habit."

Hope House Brings Father to Child

to Rivers Correctional Institution

Written By **Amy Gillus & Carol Gray,**
Rivers Correctional Institution

Since opening in 2001, Rivers Correctional Institution (RCI) has proudly provided quality programs to the inmate population. One such program is the Washington D.C. Hope House. During the first year of operation, RCI partnered with Hope House founder and Executive Director, Carol Fennelly, to host the Father to Child Reading Program and the Father to Child Teleconference Program. In 2002, Rivers hosted the first Father to Child Summer Camp. These programs are designed to encourage and maintain the parental relationships of convicted offenders with their children. Ms. Fennelly was recently honored by the White House for her dedicated efforts in helping the children of convicted parents. She received the White House Champions of Change Award on June 12, 2013.

The Father to Child Reading Program is held bi-monthly at RCI. It is open to the entire inmate population and allows “incarcerated fathers the opportunity to play a positive role in the lives of their children” while promoting literacy. Inmates may select an age-appropriate book, which they read to their child

via audio or video recording. The book and recording are then sent to the child, free of charge. The Father to Child Teleconference is conducted four afternoons a week. Each afternoon, an inmate who has passed the initial screening process and maintains a clear record of conduct, has the opportunity to meet with his child/children through a live teleconference. They meet for one hour, during which time they catch up on the latest news, laugh together, work on school projects, or work together to resolve issues. There are currently fourteen inmates participating.

The Father to Child Summer Camp at RCI is a four day event where children and incarcerated fathers come together to participate in a real summer camp experience. Hope House staff guide the campers through a variety of activities including arts and crafts, games, music and drama. RCI has proudly hosted twelve Hope House Father to Child Summer Camps.



Pictured: Art Day:
Ameen Mahdi and Son.



Side Picture: Father to Child
Summer Camp Group.

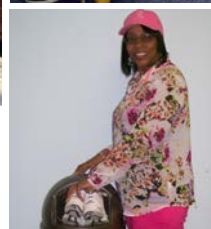
In addition to these wonderful programs, Carol Fennelly has partnered with Rivers to conduct a poetry workshop. Inmate participants submitted original works which were compiled into a publication entitled, *The Voices of Hope*. Ms. Fennelly also visits RCI each February to present a Black History Month Film Festival.

Stepped to Victory: The LVCC Steppers

Written By **Juanita Smith & Tiffany Moody,**
Lawrenceville Correctional Facility



Pictured Clockwise: LVCC Steppers celebrate the finish of Step it Up with Steve, Katrina Allen, Linda Mayo, Kimberly Jennings Sherry Wall, Janet Callis, Asst. Warden Kenneth Reagans, Tiffany Moody, Alice Wilmoth, Warden Ed. Wright, Gloria Bright, Asst. Warden Juanita Smith, William Delbridge, Yvonne Patillo, Joseph Walker, Sakisha Macklin, Bernice Coleman, and Delesa Curtis; Tiffany Moody came in number one with two million steps!; Warden Smith puts tennis shoes in garbage can at the end of “Step it up with Steve Again.” She will need to purchase new ones for the upcoming Breast Cancer Walk.



stepping to the finish line. Lawrenceville steppers came in number one, Tiffany Moody with over two million steps, and number two, Juanita Smith with just under two million steps. Two other Lawrenceville steppers, Kimberly Jennings and Joseph Walker were in the top ten, both having over one million steps, bringing the total to four steppers in the top ten. We are also proud to say that we had a total of nine steppers in the top twenty and fourteen in the top fifty.

We would like to thank the contest members from the other facilities for making us work hard during the competition. A lot of steppers are a lot thinner than when we started.

The Lawrenceville steppers walked a total of 15,059,865 steps during the competition. That's over 7,000 miles!

In the words of Forrest Gump: “We’re pretty tired, we think we’ll go home now.” Thanks Mr. Fuller for creating “Step it up with Steve Again.”

On August 1, 2013 the Lawrenceville steppers held a kick off rally for the new Step it up with Steve Contest. The steppers were challenged by their fearless leader, Warden Ed Wright to show the GEO World that the Lawrenceville steppers would step to victory.

Over the course of the competition, we faced many setbacks including lost or forgotten pebbles/actipeds, faulty batteries and most of all, lost steps at the end of the competition. At Lawrenceville, we have learned that a setback provides the opportunity for a comeback. We never looked backed and continued



Sponsoring

LaSalle Riding Club

Written By **Tina Paul, LaSalle Detention Facility**

The LaSalle Detention Facility has had the privilege of sponsoring eleven Cowboys and Cowgirls of The LaSalle Riding Club by donating \$200 to help fund their efforts in order to host a Louisiana High School Rodeo. These Cowboys and Cowgirls travel all over the state perfecting their craft at rodeos almost every weekend and the dedication that they have has proven to be successful. Meeting the academic demands of High School and Junior High School is tough enough, but for students also

training for a highly competitive, physically demanding sport, the time, focus and energy they spend in academics and athletics, is pretty significant.

The dedication and drive that these Cowboys and Cowgirls have is unquestionable. They ride as a team, rider and horse, against the clock with fastest time already set. With their family cheering them on in the stands, and making that late night drive back home, it's all about the love of the sport and the love

Back Row, Left to Right: Carley Paul, Siarra Thomas, Joseph Cole, Tina Paul (GEO LDF), Ryan Franklin, Kensley Lurry, and Madison Ewing. **Front Row Left to Right:** Maddie Estis, Drew McClure, Raylee Eberwein, Jerry Davis and Kassie Windham.

of animals. You can't teach a child what dedication means the way these Cowboys and Cowgirls understand it. It comes from perseverance, to do things the right way instead of the wrong way, and The LaSalle Detention Facility is proud to be able to help these Cowboys and Cowgirls fulfill their dream.

Written By **Sarah Spiro, Broward Transitional Center**

At Broward Transitional Center (BTC), we like to consider ourselves family not just at work, but also in our spare time. Over the past twelve weeks, six separate teams comprised of four people, each met to bowl against other members of the community in a friendly local bowling league. Not only did the twenty four staff members bowl but other individuals from our BTC family came to cheer us on each week.

Over the course of the bowling season, the bonds between coworkers became much

stronger and new camaraderies were formed that crossed different departments and shifts. Since the season has ended, people are still talking about the experience they all shared and the memories that were built. But let's not forget that some of BTC's bowlers are quite skilled and took home some of the top honors in the league, while the winnings have been reinvested in the employee fund to help sponsor other great events for our fabulous staff.

Pictured: Lieutenant Helen Grime Bowling a Strike.



The GEO Group is Going Google!

Written By Fred Ramon,
VP and Chief Information Officer, Corporate Headquarters



The GEO Group is constantly striving for new ways to improve our performance as a company, and communication has a significant impact on the way we perform in terms of productivity and efficiency. As part of our commitment to providing you with the best communication and collaboration tools available, I'm proud to announce that we will be adopting Google Apps messaging and Collaboration services. I wanted to let you all know how excited I am regarding the adoption of Google Apps, and why I feel these tools have the ability to transform the way we communicate and work with one another. Google Apps has many advantages, and listed below are the ones which I feel will have the most positive impact on our organization:

What are Google Apps?

Google Apps are powerful messaging and collaboration tools that run on Google's cloud infrastructure.

Advantages of Google Apps

- 1 Ability to consolidate our platforms**
We can eliminate redundancy by moving all of our email and calendar platforms to Google Apps.
- 2 Lower support costs**
Because Google hosts the email and calendar services, there's no more email client software to maintain on your computer.
- 3 Innovative solutions**
We can leverage the ongoing creative and technical solutions of the Google Apps plat-

form to provide employees with powerful, easy-to-use tools for getting their work done.

4 Highly scalable environment

With Google Apps, our email capacity will grow automatically as our organization grows, and we'll avoid the complexity of internal systems.

5 Access to services from anywhere, at any time

A key benefit of the Google-hosted solution is that we can access email, contacts, and calendar from any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection, from anywhere in the world.

6 More collaboration features

With Google's next-generation applications, we can collaborate with colleagues, customers, and partners more easily and efficiently than ever before.

7 Instant messaging

Because Google Apps includes Google Talk, we can now implement an instant messaging system for our organization.

During the planning phase, members of the IT organization at all levels, as well as several select individuals from other aspects of our business, have performed several months of testing and collaboration as a proof of concept with substantially positive results!

The first phase of deployment will involve only the IT organization. During this phase we will be migrating IT and confirming our technical design, identifying integration points and becoming familiar with the tools and functionality.

The next phase will be referred to as our Early Adopters phase. During this phase we will be validating the migration approach, gathering user feedback to enable customized user training and communication, and enabling employees to become Google Guides.

Google Guides

These guides will help out in the Global Go-Live as necessary, to assist those who are not as familiar with the new tools. **If you want to share in the excitement early by becoming a Google Guide, please email Sean Chimenti, Manager of the IT Support Center and Project Manager for the Going Google initiative, with the subject Google Guide.** We anticipate Google Guides to begin their exciting transition in November.

The last phase, Global Go-Live, will be sometime in January 2014. This will bring our entire organization on the same system using Gmail, Calendar, Contacts and Chat. During all of these phases, there will be the necessary training and support provided to ensure an enthusiastic adoption of Google Apps. Our goal is to make this transition as comfortable as possible for all members of our organization.

I hope you are as excited about this new innovation as I am. Keep your eyes peeled for further updates, and let's all get ready to Go Google!

Parklea

Cultural Centre Opening & NAIDOC Day

Written By Peter Ma'a, Parklea Correctional Centre

Pictured: National Rugby League players Todd Carney, Jayson Bukuya and Sam Tagataese with Aboriginal elder Stella Cunningham at Parklea.



Parklea Correctional Centre has significantly enhanced its capacity to deliver cultural, spiritual and development programs for inmates with the opening of a new cultural centre.

Corrective Services NSW commissioner, Peter Severin, opened the centre and was joined by NSW member for Riverstone, Kevin Connolly MP, along with a number of sporting personalities including boxer Anthony Mundine, Ultimate Fighting Championship competitor Mark Hunt and National Rugby League players Todd Carney, Jayson Bukuya, Sam Tagataese, Richard Fa'aoso, Masada Iosefa and Keith Galloway.

The cultural centre enhances Parklea's capacity to deliver programs that help inmates better understand their own cultural heritage and gain an appreciation of other cultures. Activities staged in the centre include cultural arts and crafts, music, performing arts and educational programs with a focus on literacy and numeracy for inmates from non-English speaking backgrounds.

Previously an industrial workshop, the building was transformed into the cultural centre through a strong contribution from Parklea staff and inmates.

"The internal fit-out and room conversions were undertaken by staff and inmates from the centre's cabinet industry unit, and the painting and artwork have been completed

by inmates from various cultural backgrounds," said Parklea general manager Peter Ma'a.

Parklea actively engages with the community, and has established a local community consultative group. Members of this group include, Blacktown Uniting Church, National Rugby League, Hillsong, Blacktown Police Citizens Youth Club, Always Kingdom Church, Parramatta National Rugby League Club and Landcom.

Volunteers from some of these organizations attend the centre to assist in the delivery of cultural and spiritual programs, as well as programs that address offending behaviors and help prepare inmates for reintegration into society.

Ceremony Marks the End of Ramadan at Junee

Written By Haley Robertson, Junee Correctional Centre

Muslim inmates at Junee Correctional Centre, were given the chance to invite family and guests for the first ever Eid Festival, held at the centre, to mark the end of Ramadan.

Guests included members of the Pakistan Association of Australia, the Pakistan consular counsellor welfare Sardar Khosa, representative from the Aawaz Media Group Shahid Iqbal, Dr. Waseem Axzal, lecturer from Charles Sturt University and the Cdarz Lebanese Dance Group.

The cultural centre at Junee has been the site for events such as Chinese New Year, Anzac Day, NAIDOC Day, Asian Moon Harvest Festival and Poly Fest; however, there had been no previous events celebrated by Islamic members of the prison population.

During the Eid Festival, inmates, staff and visitors were entertained by traditional Lebanese drums, Arabic poetry, and dancing. The ceremony was the biggest held in the cultural centre to date.

"They certainly got things off in a big way," said Mr. Iqbal who thoroughly enjoyed the day and also commented on the array of beautiful artwork, produced by inmates on display in the centre. Operations manager John Myers said "Next year's event will be even bigger."

Proceeds from the traditional Middle Eastern meal served were donated to the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Children's Ward.



Pictured: Operations manager, John Myers with members of the Pakistan Association of Australia.



Pictured: Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre hosted a special event to recognise the service of staff awarded the National Medal.

Recognising Dedicated Service at Arthur Gorrie

Written By **Tammi Levine**, Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre

In June, Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre had the opportunity to publicly recognise the dedicated service of more than 30 employees who qualified for the National Service Medal.

The National Service Medal was established in 1975, as an element of the Australian honours system. It is Australia's most awarded civilian medal, and recognises long and diligent service by members of recognized organizations, who risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster.

This includes representatives of government organizations that provide ambulance, correctional and emergency services, fire brigades, police forces and voluntary organizations such as surf lifesaving or search and rescue groups. Recently, the eligibility criteria was amended to recognise service within

privately managed correctional facilities, opening the door for many Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre employees to apply.

On June 18th, a total of thirty-six staff members were recognized for their commitment to the community, in a presentation at Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre.

Queensland Corrective Services Commissioner, Marlene Morison, attended the event to present the medals and address staff. Recipients included some former staff members who had recently retired, and it was wonderful to welcome them back into the centre for this special occasion.

The GEO Group Australia thanks these long-serving staff for their commitment over the years and looks forward to the presentation of further National Medals in the future.



Parklea Lends A *Helping Hand*

Written By Jay Wilson, Parklea Correctional Centre



**Pictured
Clockwise:**

Parklea HR manager, Janice Krieger, raising funds for the PCYC; Parklea industries manager, Jay Wilson, does time for the PCYC; Parklea correctional manager intelligence, Jeff Deal, was happy to be involved in the PCYC's Time 4 Kids promotion; Kitchen cabinets made by inmates at Parklea Correctional Centre for the PCYC; A PCYC kitchen before the installation of new cabinets, made by inmates at Parklea.



Before



After

For generations, the Police Citizens Youth Clubs (PCYC) organization has been well recognized by local communities, for its extraordinary and altruistic work with young people across Australia. With over 85,000 members and plans to increase the number of clubs in the next few years, PCYC is changing young people's lives for the better. In New South Wales alone, there are 57 PCYC clubs and many of these require significant refurbishment work, to make them functional and comfortable for those using the facilities and participating in the many activities on offer.

The GEO Group Australia managers and operators of the Parklea Correctional Centre, saw an opportunity for the industries division at Parklea to lend a helping hand. Parklea's general manager Peter Ma'a, a strong advocate of the PCYC organization, was pleased to be in a position to offer the services of the centre's cabinet shop to assist with the

refurbishment of the Blacktown, Mt. Druitt, Parramatta and Cowra PCYC facilities. Inmates employed within the GEO industries trade workshops, engage in vocational training programs, to develop new skills and to contribute to community initiatives such as the refurbishment undertaken at the PCYC clubs.

Parklea also takes part in the PCYC's Time 4 Kids promotion each year, as well as different club activities such as the Reach for the Stars program. Time 4 Kids aims to raise awareness and community support for PCYC's work with young offenders and young people 'at-risk'. To raise awareness and funds, Parklea correctional managers were locked-up in a 'cell' at a local hardware store. Through Time 4 Kids, PCYC police work to provide a safe environment in which young people are given opportunities to engage in fun, safe activities and develop their leadership potential.

Reach for the Stars was developed for girls aged thirteen to seventeen, who are at risk of developing anti-social and negative behavior patterns, that may lead to crime. The program focuses on self-confidence and self-belief, empowering young woman to embrace their future. It aims to encourage girls to be confident about their individuality in order to resist and deflect peer pressure, make healthy lifestyle choices and strive towards being the best person they can be.

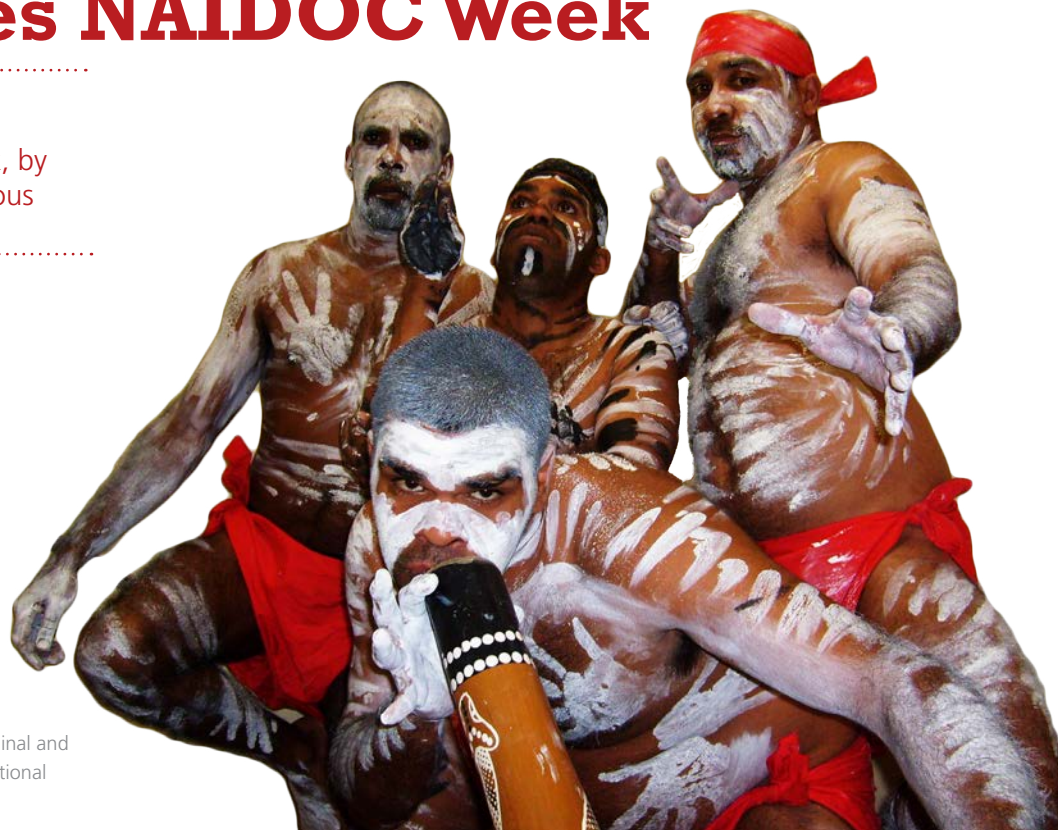
Parklea Correctional Centre employees Rodney Katieli, Janis Evans and Jeremy O'Brien, attended Blacktown PCYC recently to take part in the program. During the visit, Parklea staff gave the girls an insight into what life is like in prison.

Program participants also got a chance to meet two of the centre's detection dogs, Quarda and Bailey.

Fulham Celebrates NAIDOC Week

Fulham celebrates, National Aboriginal and Islander's Day Observance Committee week, by giving respect to the indigenous people of their land.

Written By **Regina Regulka,**
Fulham Correctional Centre



Pictured, Right: Dancers with didgeridoo.
Below, Top to Bottom: Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags; Sample of Traditional foods; Welcome dance.



One of the main events celebrated at Fulham Correctional Centre each year is NAIDOC, National Aboriginal and Islander's Day Observance Committee, Week.

The theme for 2013 was "We value the vision: Yirrkala Bark Petitions 1963." The petitions are the first documents bridging Commonwealth law as it then stood, and the indigenous laws of the land. These petitions from the Yolngu people of Yirrkala, Arnhem Land, were the first traditional documents recognized by the Commonwealth Parliament and are thus the documentary recognition of indigenous people in Australian law.

In the weeks leading up to NAIDOC Week, a team from 3CR Community Radio attended Fulham, and held a workshop including facilitating spoken word and musical with inmates in preparation for the pre-recorded broadcast. Each year, 3CR presents Beyond the Bars, which are prison radio shows featuring the stories, poems, songs and opinions of indigenous men and women in the Victorian prison system.

As in previous years, the celebrations at Fulham commenced with the flag raising ceremony, and although the skies were

cloudy, the rain did not prevail and the flags fluttered away in the cool breeze. The Australian Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait Islander flag are flown throughout NAIDOC Week to confirm our national respect for indigenous Australians.

The Elders & Family Day was the highlight of the week's activities at Fulham with over 100 inmates, guests and staff taking part in the special day. The morning commenced with a welcome to Fulham and country, and acknowledgment of the Gunai Kurnai people, the traditional owners of the land upon which Fulham stands. Guests were greeted with a welcome dance, performed by four inmates clad in customary garb and painted bodies. Later, they were entertained by the unique and melodious sounds of a didgeridoo. The lunch menu was tasty and varied with foods on offer such as crocodile, emu, kangaroo and rabbit to tempt those who had not had the opportunity to sample traditional indigenous foods.

Other activities during the week included a movie day featuring indigenous films while enjoying popcorn and soft drinks. The final event was a social football match between the "Youngies" and the "Oldies" which was followed by a medal presentation and celebratory barbecue.

Arthur Gorrie Prisoners Assist Local Wildlife Sanctuary

Written By Tammi Levine,
Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre

Prisoners working in the metal workshop at Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre, recently took the initiative of using scrap metal and timber to manufacture kangaroo feeders.

The feeders were donated to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, a not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to conservation-based research, caring for sick and injured wildlife and public education.

Currumbin staff were overwhelmed by the donation and very pleased with the quality of work by the prisoners. The centre has an ongoing horticultural program in place with Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, that involves growing and nurturing plants used for various animal and bird species.

Arthur Gorrie is looking to develop the relationship further by undertaking outdoor furniture refurbishment work for the sanctuary.



Pictured Going Clockwise: AGCC's Sidd Mehta, David Drake and Andy Rocks hand-feeding kangaroos; Kangaroo feeder constructed by Arthur Gorrie prisoners; AGCC workshop officers Andy Rocks and David Drake assessing an outdoor table for repair.

Linking with Community Stakeholders

Written By Tammi Levine, Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre

Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre staff gave a presentation to Victims Assist Queensland (Ipswich) and their major stakeholders recently, providing an overview of the post court correctional process with a heavy focus on remand. Victims Assist is a government assistance scheme providing assistance in the recovery of victims of crime who have been injured as a result of an act of violence.

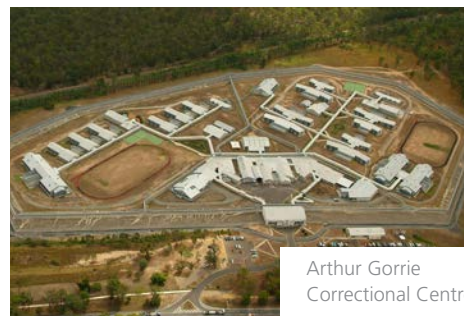
Stakeholders include Deaf Services Queensland, Catholic Prison Ministry, Queensland Homicide Victims Support Group, Ipswich Women's Centre Against Domestic Violence, DVconnect and Ozcare.

Victims Assist Queensland had previously approached Arthur Gorrie Correctional

Centre, and stated that they and their stakeholders did not have a good understanding of what happens to people while they are being processed through the court system, and if they are imprisoned or supervised by Queensland Corrective Services upon being sentenced.

Based on the identified needs, Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre employees, Mick Ohlin and James Wedmaier, tailored a presentation that focused on four broad correctional areas including lawful authority, sentence management, legal representatives and court outcomes. The presentation was well received and most people took the opportunity to ask questions relating to their specific interests.

After the meeting, several stakeholder groups expressed an interest in having a similar presentation specifically for their organization. This is the beginning of a great opportunity to strengthen relationships between the centre and community stakeholder groups.



Arthur Gorrie
Correctional Centre

Female Transitional Unit

Opens at Junee

Written By Haley Robertson, Junee Correctional Centre

Junee Correctional Centre has opened its new Female Transitional Unit, which provides accommodation for women on remand.

Work on the building commenced in November, and it was constructed with the support of TAFE NSW Riverina Institute, external contractors, maintenance staff and inmates.

The facility comprises a four-bedroom accommodation unit, a disabled cell, day room, kitchenette and laundry facilities. A fenced-off outside area enables the inmates to walk around outside.

Previously, females that were remanded to the centre were housed in the medical centre, and due to logistics, were only able to leave their room for a couple of hours a day.

“This has been a long-term requirement for Junee Correctional Centre and now it has been achieved.” said general manager Andy Walker.

Wiradjuri elder, Aunty Kath Withers opened the building at a small ceremony attended by visitors, staff and members of the Junee Advisory Committee. The building has been named *Walanmarra*, which means ‘make strong now.’



Pictured Clockwise:
Staff and visitors at the official opening; Inspecting the accommodation.

Goanna Handover

Written By Haley Robertson, Junee Correctional Centre

An impressive piece of artwork, produced by inmates at Junee Correctional Centre, has taken pride of place in the foyer of the Catholic Schools Office in Wagga Wagga.

When the Catholic Schools Office was exploring ways of expressing its commitment

to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, local contacts led them to a discussion with Junee’s offender services manager, Trevor Coles, and the project evolved from there.

Aboriginal prisoners worked with Ricky Whybro of TAFE NSW Riverina Institute to create a large metal goanna, the totem of the local Wiradjuri people. Wiradjuri elder, Aunty Kath Withers who works with the inmates in the Colorful Dreaming Program, was also heavily involved in the project.

Originally planned to measure 30cm by 30cm, the goanna project took six weeks to complete and ended-up 1.3m by 1.3m. “As the inmates grew in confidence so did the goanna,” Trevor Coles said.

Inmates who worked on the project decided that the fee for undertaking the work would be donated to the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital Children’s Ward.

The Catholic diocese has since committed a further \$1,000 to allow Junee inmates to create smaller goannas for Catholic schools throughout the area.



Pictured Left to Right: Trevor Coles, Aunty Kath Withers, Bishop Gerard Hanna, inmates who constructed the Goanna, Ricky Whybro and Kelly Humphrey.

Arthur Gorrie Contributes to Ipswich Environmental Beautification Efforts

Written By **Tammi Levine**,
Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre

Prisoners at Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre (AGCC) have cultivated over 4,000 plants for donation to the Ipswich City Council's ongoing beautification project.

General Manager, Troy Ittensohn and Finance & Administration Manager, Sidd Mehta met with Ipswich Councillor, Heather Morrow, on July 23rd to deliver this major contribution to the city.

The donation of plants not only assists the general community through the beautification project, but also supports prisoners working within AGCC's Industries department by providing meaningful activity and demonstrating the importance of being a contributing member of society.

Vocational opportunities such as a tertiary horticultural certificate are made available to prisoners, further supporting their potential contributions to the community once released. The Queensland Times newspaper highlighted Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre's donation to the Ipswich City Council in an article published on July 24.



Pictured Left to Right: Ipswich Council Plant Donation: Finance & Administration Manager, Sidd Mehta, Councillor, Heather Morrow & General Manager Troy Ittensohn with plants cultivated by Arthur Gorrie Prisoners. Photo Credit: David Nielsen/APN



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Top Dog

Written By **Haley Robertson,**
Junee Correctional Centre



Junee Correctional Centre's PADD dog, Gypsie, and handler, Chontel Barber, have won the detection section 2013 Australian Service Dog Trials.

Chontel and Gypsie competed against approximately 40 other K9 teams from different law enforcement, emergency and military agencies throughout Australia.

Staged at Kirkconnell Correctional Centre, the event is hosted by Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) and the Australian Service Dog Association (ASDA).

"This will be a show of discipline, agility and ability and the handlers who are best able to demonstrate K9-human teamwork, will be awarded prizes in four different categories, making them national champions in that category." said ASDA secretary Andrew Clark prior to the event. K9 teams that included german shepherds, labradors, springer spaniels and border collies demonstrated their ability to detect drugs and explosives, track offenders and search buildings, vehicles and open fields.

Chontel had to choose three out of the five categories being assessed in the detection section, which included person, box, room, vehicle and field. Each search is scored out of 100 and most handlers competed in substance detection, ranging from narcotics to accelerant, explosives and cadaver (deceased person).

The first box search comprised three rows of ten boxes, and Gypsie locating the odor on the first pass, scoring the maximum 100 points.

The room search was based on searching two cells in a five-minute period. Chontel chose the cell on the left first, with Gypsie searching the room with no indications in about 30 seconds. In the next cell, Gypsie located the odor immediately putting her nose directly on the odor and indicating. That search scored 93 out of 100.

On the final person search, along a line-up, Gypsie stopped at the fifth person and put her nose up around the waist area of that person and proceeded to indicate. This was rewarded with another score of 100 and gave the pair an overall score of 293 out of 300.

Upon the completion of the trials, Chontel and Gypsie were awarded the perpetual trophy as well as a trophy for their category and a certificate for their outstanding efforts.

The judges described Chontel as "the epitome of what a dog handler should be" and said her first place was well deserved.

Over the course of the weekend, Chontel received many comments from judges on her work ethic, approach and on Gypsie's form and indications. Competitors and judges were also shocked to find out that Gypsie is 10 years old. Chontel and Gypsie were the only GEO competitors participating in this annual event.

Pictured: Chontel and Gypsie with their national championship trophies.

Blacktown City Council Bicycle Recycling Program

Written By **Jay Wilson,**
Parklea Correctional Centre

The GEO Group Australia and Parklea Correctional Centre are playing a major role in a bicycle recycling program developed by the Blacktown City Council. Initiated by a council worker, the program sees bicycles that would otherwise be destined for landfill, being restored by inmates at Parklea Correctional Centre.

In a move that encourages waste reduction within the community, the council collects old and/or broken bikes from local residents. Once they are restored the bicycles are given to children within the Blacktown area to use and enjoy on the city's cycle ways. As the bikes are being restored individually, it allows them to be custom designed. Since the commencement of the program, at least three bikes that have been tailored for disabled residents. Being a part of this initiative,



keeps inmates active in local community programs and provides an opportunity for them to give something back to society. The inmates take great pride in restoring the bikes, knowing that local children will have many years of enjoyment from them.



Pictured Clockwise: An inmate with some of the bicycles restored at Parklea; A Parklea inmate works on a bicycle that is sure to put a smile on the face of a child in the Blacktown area.

Special Visit to Elderly Citizens Home

Written By Regina Regulska, Fulham Correctional Centre

The morning routine for residents at Sale's Ashleigh House Elderly Citizens Village was invigorated recently, when two staff from Fulham Correctional Centre visited to talk about the educational and cultural activities and programs available to indigenous prisoners.

At the time, celebrations were being held all over Australia for National Aboriginal and Islanders' Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week which is held every year as a way of promoting a greater understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture and celebrating the survival of indigenous culture.

Fulham's Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Daniel Skipper and Senior Education Officer Phil Maynes spent a few hours with the residents and spoke about what life was like for indigenous prisoners at the Centre. Residents were shown artwork, decorated

boomerangs and a didgeridoo created by the prisoners. Mr. Skipper explained traditional lore and the various roles assigned to males and females in indigenous culture. Mr. Maynes spoke about the various educational, therapeutic and cultural programs offered to prisoners during their incarceration.

As part of NAIDOC Week celebrations, residents were given plain boomerangs to decorate during their art activity sessions. The village's General Manager, Mr. Ross Luhrs, was also presented with a framed boomerang as a memento of the occasion. The visit was very much enjoyed by everyone and an invitation was extended to make it a regular occurrence. The experience was such a highlight for one resident, who happily stated "This is the best morning I've had since coming to Ashleigh House."

The programs and activities provided for all prisoners at Fulham and the visit to Ashleigh

House, show a commitment by Fulham Correctional Centre in striving to bring about better corrections and therefore safer communities.



Pictured Clockwise:

Daniel Skipper presents General Manager, Ross Luhrs with a memento of the visit; FCC Aboriginal Liaison Officer, Daniel Skipper with Ashleigh House Aged Care Nurse, Anne Maynes showing artwork.





Goooo.....Gorrie!

Written By **Tammi Levine**, Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre

Staff from Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre formed two mixed netball teams and participated alongside various government agencies in this year's Queensland Police and Emergency Services Games. The Gorrie Gladiators and Jail Birds spent weeks training hard at the gym to bring their A-game on September 25 against staff from Queensland Police, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service, Queensland Ambulance Service and Queensland Corrective Services.

Sporting team shirts, generously donated by Arthur Gorrie and The GEO Group Australia, and with their fingernails trimmed and warm-ups completed, fourteen staff members were raring to go at the first whistle of the round-robin competition. The somewhat friendly competition and light-

hearted exercise helped to promote healthy lifestyles and teamwork within a relaxed environment.

All participants enjoyed the day, and a thank you goes to team organiser, Angeleena Platt, as well as Arthur Gorrie management and The GEO Group Australia for their support.

Pictured: The Gorrie Gladiators and Jail Birds representing Arthur Gorrie at the Queensland Police and Emergency Services Games.

Gorrie Gladiators: Malu Mauga, Ana-Rita Kingi, Tanika Carroll, Craig Atkins, Melvin Ah Kiong, Ray Iati, and Brendan Smith.

Jail Birds: Angeleena Platt, Karl Webb, Nathan Favarato, Hanah Walton, Rae Pronk, Ursula Faschingbauer, and Shaun Devrieze.



Activities At Admissions

At Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre

Written By Karen Odendaal,
Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre

Kutama Sinthumule Correctional Centre (KSCC) admits male maximum offenders who have been sentenced and have served some of their sentences in the Department of Correctional Services (DCS).

The admission staff members prepare and assist offenders, once the necessary memo has been circulated to all the various departments. Offenders are transferred on weekdays to DCS in order to appear in court for further charges for their appeal cases, to other centers when they have to go on parole placement, and when they have been re-classified and are no longer maximum offenders.

Offenders will be examined by the medical staff before reporting to admissions. The Case Managers and health care staff will provide a medical and case file for each offender to be transferred to DCS. Offenders will be assisted in admissions to receive all their private property including identity books and bank cards. The supervisor, in charge of the transfer, will collect the necessary documents from the DCS officials at the facility. This includes the money for each offender, as well as the warrant file of each offender and will keep these in safe keeping until the offenders are handed over to DCS officials.

After the offender has signed that he does not have a problem with being transferred, he will hand in his facility uniform and exchange into a DCS uniform. The three files (case, medical and warrant files) as well as the money will be handled by the KSCC staff.

Offenders will be cuffed with leg irons and hand cuffs and then loaded into the escort vehicles. The escort staff will be responsible for the documents which are contained in the escape pack, including photos of the offenders for easy identification in case of an escape/accident, etc.

Staff members at admissions have their fair share of funny situations when offenders are transferred out of KSCC. In some cases, the offenders might have handed in leather wallets and shoes, as long as ten years ago. Because the items were actually imitation leather, it disintegrates when handled or put on. At least 50% of the offenders who are sent on parole are very grateful for the assistance of the admission staff. When they



From Left to right:
K. Odendaal (Unit Manager),
P Ndhlovu, P. Sambo, C. Lebepe,
N. Mutello (Supervisor) and in
front P.T. Mokubedi.

encounter staff members they are usually friendly and greet staff when they meet them outside in public.

All offenders who are received at KSCC will be off loaded in the parking area of the admission unit. A head count will be done and offenders will be un-cuffed and escorted inside the admission unit, while a warrant check is being conducted. Offenders will be fingerprinted and then strip searched by same sex custodial officers. After being dressed in a gown and flip flops they will be searched on the BOSS chair to detect whether they are hiding metal objects in body cavities. Should there be any doubts, they will be x-rayed in health care by the radiographer. They are given the opportunity to shower and are then issued with KSCC offender uniform for which they will sign an acknowledgement form.

Newly admitted offenders will be given an opportunity to phone their relatives, to inform them about the rules and regulations and how to book a visit to them. The offenders will undergo an admission interview during which all contact details of next of kin as well as medical problems will be identified. The offender will also be weighed, photographed and electronic fingerprinted at the time of intake.

Private property such as stationary and cosmetics, which an offender is allowed to receive, will be searched thoroughly before being issued to them. The staff of admissions will record all the offender's property on a computer program as well as in a hanging file. Once the process is complete, the offenders will be escorted with their medical files to health care where the initial medical screening will be conducted.

The staff members at the admission unit also have the daily task of calling offenders to the unit in order to receive parcels which the facility receives through the South African postal services from the offenders' family and friends. During weekends, when social visits are allowed, items are also delivered and registered for the offenders. All of these parcels are searched before being issued to the offender. All items such as stationary, radios and cosmetics are scrutinized and thoroughly searched and then issued to the offender once he has signed an acknowledgement document taking full responsibility for the contents of the parcel. Staff members at admissions have over the years become a well-oiled machine and have developed a sixth sense to identify items in a parcel that have been tampered with. Their dedication, security awareness and never say die attitude, ensure that parcels issued contain only items that are allowed in the facility.

Bouncing Their Way Out of Trouble

Written By Regina Regulska, Fulham Correctional Centre

With the help of Fulham Correctional Centre, a group of disadvantaged indigenous girls are now able to field a team in the local basketball competition.

Following a request from Nicole LeSage, Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee Executive Officer, a \$500 check was presented to team coach, Ms. May Pearce, who has been working with young girls at high risk of entering into the justice system. The girls, the majority of whom were from low income families and some no longer able to live at home, were being coached by Ms. Pearce, a highly motivated mom who recognized the importance of engaging and encouraging girls to focus on their talents and skills, and involving them in positive activities and interactions. Over the years Ms. Pearce has volunteered her time coaching and mentoring many groups of girls, and she was concerned that this group might lose interest because they couldn't afford the competition fees.

Through the delivery of better Corrections, Fulham Correctional Centre aspires to contribute to a safer community and a key emphasis of this aspiration is providing support towards disadvantaged groups in the area.



Pictured Left to Right:
Presentation to Indigenous Basketball Team:
FCC Health Services Manager, Jan Te Maru, RAJAC Executive Officer, Nicole LeSage and team coach May Pearce.

“Through the delivery of better Corrections, Fulham Correctional Centre aspires to contribute to a safer community and a key emphasis of this aspiration is providing support towards disadvantaged groups in the area.”

Fulham Helps A True Champion

Written By Regina Regulska,
Fulham Correctional Centre

Amild learning disability has not stopped Skye Nielsen-Vold from achieving her goals and becoming a champion many times over.

Twenty year old Skye's latest accomplishment is being selected to represent Australia in basketball at the first, Special Olympics Asia Pacific Regional Games, to be held at the end of the year. Skye and her team mates will travel interstate in December and join 1,700 athletes from more than 30 countries to compete in this year's event being held in Newcastle. Skye's determination to succeed in life has seen many achievements. While completing studies in General Education for adults, Skye also works part-time as a



Pictured:
Skye Nielsen-Vold accepting the \$500 cheque from members of Fulham's Senior Management Team.

waitress, and after having played for the Victoria Country basketball team for five years, she will now join an elite group in her chosen sport.

The high cost of being part of the national team didn't deter Skye who wrote to Fulham's General Manager asking for assistance in raising the \$3,000 she needed. Skye and her family, who have been working hard to help raise the funds, were overjoyed

when told the Centre would pay the initial \$500 deposit. The check was handed over to Skye, at a special presentation attended by her parents and Fulham's senior management team.

The Fulham Correctional Centre is pleased to be able to assist Skye in participating in the event and wish her, and all the team members an enjoyable and successful time at the games.

Arthur Gorrie Celebrates

Christmas in July

Written By **Tammi Levine,**
Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre

A GEO Santa brought plenty of joy to the residents of Canossa Aged Care who celebrated Christmas in July at Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre.

Twelve residents and carers visited the centre and shared Christmas lunch with members of staff. They were overwhelmed with the festive meal prepared by the prisoners working in Food Services.

The prisoners were enthusiastic when they learnt about the event and prepared a delicious three-course meal for the guests. Prisoner workers in the Medical Centre created handmade Christmas decorations for the luncheon, ensuring the room had a warm festive season feel.

While indulging in Christmas pudding Canossa residents shared their life experi-

ences with staff. Arthur Gorrie General Manager Troy Ittensohn extended his thanks to employees in the Medical Centre and Food Services for organizing the lunch as well as to the prisoners who helped with catering and decoration.

The centre is looking to continue the relationship with Canossa Aged Care and plans to celebrate Christmas in July every year.

In other news, Canossa Aged Care received a wonderful surprise when Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre presented the facility with a wheelchair for use by residents and staff.

AGCC's Health Services Manager Shirley Sheppard and Finance & Administration Manager Sidd Mehta delivered the wheelchair in July.

The duo were accompanied by AGCC Registered Nurse Julie Richardson and Food Services Manager Craig Jeff, who brought along freshly baked scones to share with Canossa residents and employees.

Pictured Top to Bottom: Canossa residents celebrating Christmas in July with Santa, AGCC Operations Manager Brad Kidd; AGCC supporting the care of residents at Canossa.



Intensive Supervision Appearance Program: Building Community Partnerships



“ISAP brings participants and community organizations together to address basic needs and arrange for necessary services.”

December 12, 2012 started out as just another day for Intensive Supervision Case Specialist (ISAP), Ginou Baptiste of the Miami Intensive Supervision Appearance Program. The holidays were fast approaching and along with the festive mood, was an increasing awareness by Ginou and her colleagues of the many program participants who were struggling to provide for their families.

Ginou’s third appointment that day, was with a participant named Alex. Alex was a Jamaican national who was married and had twelve children. Alex appeared somewhat distraught as he sat down to begin his regularly scheduled face-to-face visit. After carefully reviewing the supervision requirement and compliance, Ginou addressed her participant’s apparent distress. After a short conversation, she discovered that this participant had been unable to renew his work permit and was therefore no longer able to support his family. “We are struggling to feed our children and can’t even begin to think about having a Christmas for them.” Alex told her.

Ginou sprang into action and reached out to community agencies to find critical help for Alex and his family. Soon, with the help of Haitian Women of Miami, a local charity that provides help, goods, and services to the greater Miami area, Ginou had secured

food vouchers and Christmas gifts for all the children, who ranged in age from seventeen months to seventeen years. She also tapped this agency and other community organizations for gifts and support for others on her caseload with similar needs. Over the next few days, Ginou used her own time to deliver these gifts to the families of participants in need.

This story is a perfect example of how ISAP brings participants and community organizations together to address basic needs and arrange for necessary services. These services, help participants and their families remain stable in their communities and get the assistance they need. In virtually every ISAP office, Case Specialists, like Ginou Baptiste, work with participants to identify and provide needed services such as food, clothing, shelter, as well as medical, mental health and substance abuse treatment. Since the program cannot contractually provide these services directly, community partnerships are critically important. The relationships that ISAP staff develops with service providers are equally valuable.

To ensure that services are readily available to ISAP participants, ISAP staff work to formalize community partnerships through the development of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU). These MOUs recognize the working and referral

Written By **John LaPallo, ISAP**

relationships between the program and the agency, and improve the referral process through enhanced communication. Community partners provide training to ISAP staff on eligibility criteria and services they provide. This training and ongoing contact helps reduce the number of roadblocks and appointments that participants experience before receiving services.

Thus far, ISAP has secured **thirty-three MOUs** in the U.S. with service providers and charitable organizations including local churches that provide charitable outreach and local chapters of nationally recognized agencies such as the YWCA and Catholic Charities. Each ISAP office identifies the services most requested or needed by participants and locates solid organizations who can meet these needs. The next step in the process is to enhance the relationship between ISAP and the service provider through the development of a MOU.

The Miami ISAP office has such an MOU with the Haitian Women of Miami, who graciously provided the help to Alex and his family as well as many other ISAP participants. ISAP participation is about going to court and following the court and DHS orders. ISAP offers many participants the opportunity to remain in the community with their families while they complete immigration proceedings or work to comply with their court orders. ISAP staff treat participants with dignity and respect, building critical community partnerships that help participants remain safely in the community.

Pictured: Case Specialist Ginou Baptiste conducting an ISAP face-to-face visit.

The Intensive Supervision Appearance Program provides community supervision and electronic monitoring services on behalf of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Participants are referred to ISAP by DHS Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). These referrals include Participants in Immigration Court proceedings or with final orders. ISAP helps stabilize Participants in the community while helping them comply with their legal requirements. If the court or DHS requires that the participant return to their country of origin, ISAP works with the participants and help them comply.

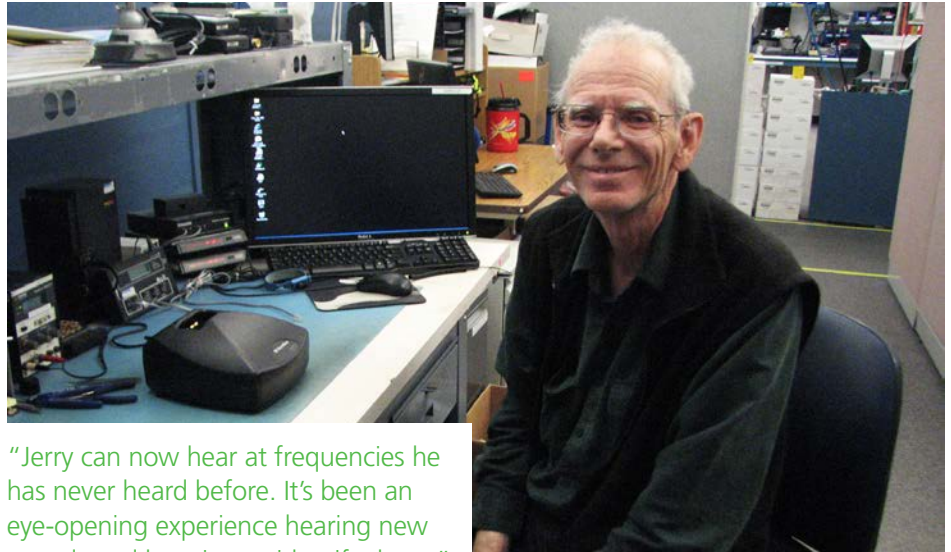
No Longer A

World of Silence

Written By Alisa Jeffery, BI Incorporated

BI Incorporated Technician, Jerry Lukens, and his twin sister were born 80% deaf. A lifetime of hearing aids and strong lip reading skills helped Jerry navigate the hearing world, but it wasn't always easy. He shares many stories of the difficulties of being deaf, like the time he was bitten by a rattlesnake because he never heard the warning rattle. Work was sometimes difficult, as he could not hear co-workers trying to get his attention on the floor. Even a simple conversation in which he was fully engaged sounded odd to Jerry, as the other person's sentences sounded choppy, much like they were speaking into a fan. A valued BI employee for over 22 years, Jerry was usually able to find a work-around to most challenges on the job. One of the most obvious was using a Sound Level Meter to listen for the beep when testing HomeBase units.

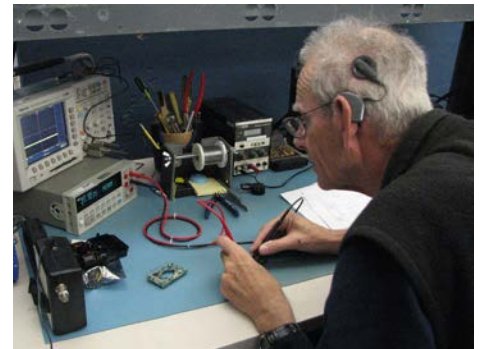
Over the last few years, Jerry's hearing loss began to deteriorate even more. Jerry worked closely with his manager Paul Chyc, BI Human Resources Director Suzanne Pelletier, and especially GEO VP of Employee and Labor Relations Christopher Ryan to research solutions to address Jerry's increased hearing loss. A Cochlear Implant (CI) was determined to be the best solution for Jerry after much research and testing. The CI surgery is fairly complex. During an eight hour outpatient surgery, a receiver is implanted into the brain with 22 electrodes wound through the cochlea. These electrodes send impulses to the nerves in the ear and then directly to the brain through the auditory nerve system, bypassing the external ear. Two weeks after surgery, Jerry had a successful "Turn on" day and he can now hear at frequencies he has never heard



"Jerry can now hear at frequencies he has never heard before. It's been an eye-opening experience hearing new sounds and learning to identify them."

before. It's been an eye-opening experience hearing new sounds and learning to identify them. For instance, Jerry almost took his car to the mechanic until someone explained there was nothing wrong with the car. Instead, the dinging he heard was his car reminding him that the lights were on or the keys were still in the ignition. He also expressed surprise at how much noise birds make.

Jerry now finds speech more comfortable, both hearing someone talk and speaking himself. He will need approximately one year to fully adapt to the CI, but the surgery has already improved his communication and relationships with BI co-workers. Jerry would like to thank everyone involved for supporting and advocating for him while helping to navigate the process involved with receiving his CI.



Pictured Top to Bottom: Jerry Lukens; Jerry working with his Cochlear Implant; Before the surgery, Jerry used a Sound Level Meter to hear the beep.

Valuable ISAP Technology Training

Written By Nicole Suchocki, BI Incorporated

BI Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP) personnel and the Alternatives to Detention (ATD) Headquarters held their 5th Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) Technology and Training Forum on August 27-29, 2013, at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Charleston, SC.

Twenty four officers from various Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) units across the United States attended the ERO Tech Forum, which was held right

before the officers two week Field Operations Training Program conducted by FLETC.

During the event, officers received hands-on experience and training with BI's GPS and Telephonic Reporting technology and software. The training also incorporated real life scenarios where officers applied the knowledge they had learned in the classroom and used it to complete various practical field exercises, such as using historical GPS data to identify a client that had cut off a GPS bracelet. Other scenarios involved

officers using BI's GPS software on their mobile devices along with other resources and tools to help them quickly locate multiple clients that were moving around real-time in the community.

Overall, the training was a huge success and BI would like to thank the FLTEC instructors, ATD HQ, and especially the ATD Unit Chief for this collaborative effort. BI is looking forward to holding the next ERO Tech Forum, also scheduled in September 2013 at the FLETC base in Glynco, GA.



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