

# OFFICE OF MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF RUBEN MARTÉ

301 NORTH COLLEGE AVENUE BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47404 TELEPHONE (812) 349-2534 • FAX (812) 349-2828 ORI: IN0530000

March 30, 2023

The Honorable Mary Ellen Diekhoff, Judge, Monroe County Circuit Court 301 N College Avenue Bloomington, IN 47404

Judge Diekhoff,

In accordance with the provisions of 210 IAC 3-1-2, please find the Monroe County 2022 Jail report. If you have any questions regarding the report, please contact me at (812) 349-2534.

Sincerely,

Ruben D. Marté

Monroe County Sheriff

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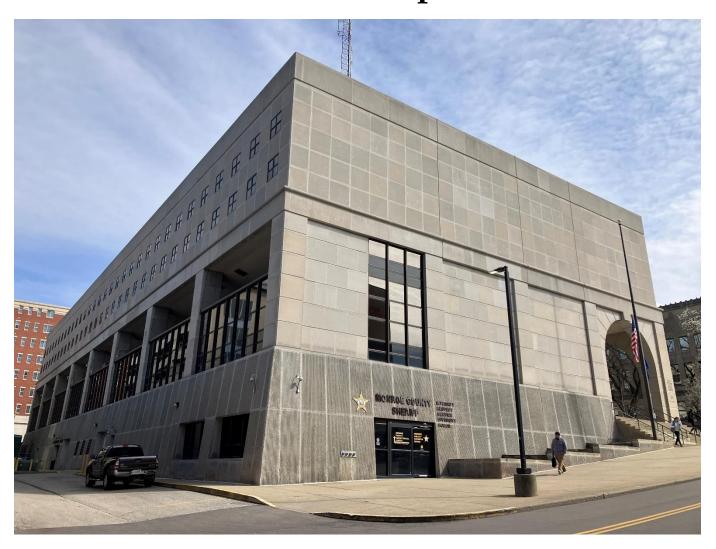
cc: Jeff Groh, State Jail Inspector

Kate Wiltz, President, Monroe County Council Erika Oliphant, Monroe County Prosecutor

Penny Githens, President, Monroe County Commissioners

Catherine Smith, Monroe County Auditor

# 2022 Annual Report



# **Monroe County Correctional Center**

Ruben D. Marté, Sheriff Kyle J. Gibbons, Jail Commander

Charlotte T. Zietlow Justice Center 301 North College Avenue Bloomington, IN 47404

# ANNUAL JAIL REPORTING

#### IC 36-2-13-12

#### Reports; persons confined in county jail; condition of county jail; recommendations

(b) The sheriff shall file with the county executive an annual report of the condition of the county jail and any recommended improvements in its maintenance and operation. The report shall also be filed with the county auditor and maintained as a public record. *As added by Acts* 1980, *P.L.*212, *SEC.*1.

#### 210 IAC 3-1-2 Administration and organization

Authority: IC 11-8-2-5; IC 11-12-4-1

Affected: IC 11-12-4-1

- (b) Each sheriff shall prepare and submit, not later than March 31 after the conclusion of each calendar year, a written report setting forth the annual statistical data and the extent and availability of services and programs to inmates identifying major events that have occurred in the jail and unfunded operational needs. The report shall be directed to the circuit court judge, and copies shall be provided to the state jail inspector, president of the county council or city-county council, prosecutor, and president of the board of commissioners. The report shall also be provided to the county auditor and be maintained as a public record. At a minimum, the report shall include the following:
- (1) The total number of beds.
- (2) The total number of bookings with at least the top ten (10) identified by offense.
- (3) The average daily inmate population.
- (4) The total number of jail and in-custody deaths by type (suicide, natural causes, homicide) with a summary of each occurrence.
- (5) The number of escapes.
- (6) The total number of juveniles booked into the jail via waiver or direct file.
- (7) The availability of services provided at the jail.
- (8) A statement on the adequacy of jail staffing levels.
- (9) A statement on the maintenance and upkeep of the jail.
- (10) Unfunded needs and projects essential to jail operation and maintenance.
- (11) The average length of stay, for all inmates housed in the jail as of December 31, of the preceding year.

# **MONROE COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER**

The Monroe County Correctional Center is located at 301 North College Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana. The Correctional Center is housed within the Monroe County Justice Building's 1st, 4th and 5th Floors. The facility was built in 1984 and had an original bed count of 128. Over the years additional bed space was gained from double bunking all cells with the exception of two for ADA compliance. Space previously designed for other uses has been converted to housing, the latest in 2017 when a remodeling project of a space previously used for storage was completed. This space, designated as K Block, provided an additional seven beds to the facility, and serves as a housing area for select inmates with significant mental health issues. J-Block, with 32 beds, has been repurposed in its entirety to accommodate inmates with significant mental health needs. With the latest remodel in 2017, the Correctional Center bed count is currently at 294.

# **TOTAL NUMBER OF BEDS**

A block: 32 B Block: 31 C Block: 32 D Block: 32 E Block: 32 F Block: 14 G Block: 5 H Block: 4

I Block: 32 J Block: 32 K Block: 7

Inmate Worker Dorm: 22 Program Dorm: 12

Total: 287 beds

Segregation: 4 beds Padded Cell: 1 bed Holding: 2 beds

<u>Total: 7 beds</u> **Total: 294** 

# **BOOKING STATISTICS**



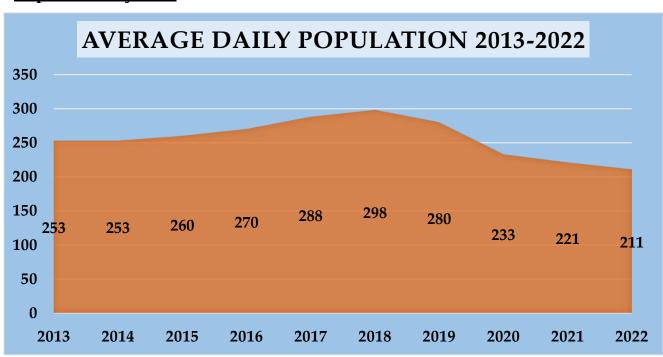
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Admissions	4869	3092	2956	3241

# **Top Ten Booking Types in 2022:**

- 1. Hold for Other Jurisdiction
- 2. Failure to Appear
- 3. Violation of Probation
- 4. Domestic Battery
- 5. Resisting Law Enforcement
- 6. Theft
- 7. Operating While Intoxicated
- 8. Battery
- 9. Possession of Methamphetamine
- 10. Criminal Trespassing

# **AVERAGE INMATE POPULATION**

# Population by Year



# Average Daily Population by Month

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2022	208	211	193	207	226	223	234	203	228	211	187	177
2021	231	236	248	239	221	218	209	212	217	213	205	201
2020	252	258	238	181	205	232	230	238	238	247	245	230
2019	293	291	301	291	296	293	277	278	271	274	255	239
2018	288	283	289	313	289	269	288	299	324	310	316	308

## One Day Snapshot:

On December 31, 2022 at the Monroe County Correctional Facility, 156 inmates were being held on felony charges and 17 were held on misdemeanor charges.

# **Inmate Meal Cost**

2022	TOTAL				COST PER
2022	SPENT	BUDGETED	DIFFERENCE	# OF MEALS	MEAL
January	\$18,490.37	\$24,456.39	\$5,966.02	18,669	\$0.99
February	\$23,941.72	\$22,458	(\$1,483.91)	17,151	\$1.40
March	March \$31,157.81		(\$8,477.78)	17,313	\$1.80
April	\$24,106.10	\$23,524.98	(\$581.12)	17,958	\$1.34
May	May \$31,415.17 \$26,653.26		(\$4,761.91)	20,346	\$1.54
June	June \$38,782.85 \$2		(\$13,398.98)	19,377	\$2.00
July	\$34,656.20	\$27,537.51	(\$7,118.69)	21,021	\$1.65
August	\$44,826.41	\$27,553.23	(\$17,273.18)	21,033	\$2.13
September	\$30,511.73	\$26,040.18	(\$4,471.55)	19,878	\$1.53
October	\$33,806.19	\$24,896.55	(\$8,909.64)	19,005	\$1.78
November	\$54,737.03	\$21,284.88	(\$33,452.15)	16,248	\$3.37
December	\$29,197.95	\$20,754.33	(\$8,443.62)	15,843	\$1.84
TOTALS	\$395,629.53	\$293,223.02	(\$102,406.51)	223,842	\$1.78

# **Monroe Correctional Inflation Tracking Snapshot**

	2021	2022	Difference	Percentage
Loaf of Bread	\$0.98	\$1.15	\$0.17	17.34
Case of Milk	\$13.05	\$19.75	\$6.70	51.34
15 Dozen Eggs	\$15.88	\$19.46	\$3.58	22.54
Pound of Ground Beef	\$1.58	\$2.68	\$1.10	69.62
50 Lbs of Sugar	\$31.23	\$30.21	(\$1.02)	-3.26
1 Lb of Cheese Slices	\$2.07	\$2.71	\$0.64	30.91
30 Lbs of Margarine	\$25.25	\$39.44	\$14.19	56.19
20 Lbs of Elbow				
Macaroni	\$12.49	\$16.68	\$4.19	33.54
20 Lbs of Corn	\$17.72	\$19.88	\$2.16	12.18
20 Lbs Carrots	\$11.18	\$13.50	\$2.32	20.75
20 Lbs of Peas & Carrots	\$14.76	\$17.46	\$2.70	18.29

# **Food Purchasing**

The Monroe Correctional Center purchases approximately the following quantities of food for inmate meals:

- 380 Loaves of bread per week
- 50 Cases of milk per week
- 120 Dozen eggs per week
- 80 Pounds of ground beef per week
- 200 Pounds of sugar per week
- 80 Pounds of cheese slices per week
- 180 Pounds of margarine per month
- 120 Pounds of elbow macaroni per week
- 120 Pounds of corn per week
- 120 Pounds of carrots per week
- 120 Pounds of peas & carrots per week

# **Correctional Center Inmate Transportation**

2021	Miles	Hours	# Officers	2022	Miles	Hours	# Officers
January	2113	69.63	44	January	3539	87.9	42
February	1214	44.67	28	February	2638	82.65	44
March	3918	113.57	48	March	2823	81.83	42
April	2557	76.75	46	April	2953	80.1	38
May	3787	124.53	66	May	2953	98.11	44
June	3714	107.17	50	June	3219	120.66	52
July	2340	80.3	48	July	2632	92.9	48
August	3034	109.45	68	August	3743	128.16	62
September	4062	129.7	78	September	2321	88.76	48
October	2102	92.92	54	October	5712	145.31	60
November	1546	57.5	36	November	2172	87.38	48
December	1760	60.23	38	December	2386	98.35	36

<b>Yearly Totals</b> 32147 1066.42	604 Yearly Total	ls 37091 1192.11	570
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# **Courts**

375 345
419
417
427
456
427
528
420
435
365
293

Yearly				Yearly			
Totals	2039	3275	3460	Totals	2454	3042	4907

# **Library Services:**

The Monroe Correctional Center and the Monroe County Public Library continue their years-long partnership providing library services at the Jail. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM, the library is open and staffed by volunteers who are employed with the Monroe County Public Library. Inmates can request books from the Monroe County Public Library if we do not have the book within the on-site library. Our inventory of books were donated by organizations, members of the public, and the Monroe County Library. Inmates can check out six books at a time and can maintain up to 10 books at a time, excluding religious and educational materials.

# MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY JAIL SERVICE SUMMARY

	Blocks	Patrons	Books	MCPL	Total	Total	
2022	Served	Served	Circulated	Books	Circulation	Hours	CIRCS/HOURS
January	16	175	799	2	801	21.5	37.26
February	13	163	723	3	726	22	33
March	23	231	1053	3	1056	29.5	35.8
April	14	181	806	6	812	22	36.91
May	14	203	911	3	914	23.5	38.89
June	15	243	1127	5	1132	28	40.43
July	14	200	909	2	911	24.5	37.18
August	19	251	1165	15	1180	28	42.14
September	14	170	756	2	758	22.5	33.69
October	13	178	821	4	825	22.25	37.08
November	12	128	562	2	564	19.5	28.92
December	18	173	784	1	785	23.5	33.4
Total	185	2296	10416	48	10464	286.75	434.7

	Blocks	Patrons	Books	MCPL	Total	Total	
2021	Served	Served	Circulated	Books	Circulation	Hours	CIRCS/HOURS
		Crate					
January	14	Service	440	0	440	19.5	22.56
		Crate					
February	4	Service	210	0	210	8	26.25
		Crate					
March	14	Service	505	0	505	16.5	30.61
		Crate					
April	12	Service	500	0	500	19.5	25.64
		Crate					
May	10	Service	420	0	420	15.5	27.1
June	12	123	567	0	567	19.5	29.08
July	20	178	785	0	785	25.5	30.78
August	14	167	748	0	748	21	35.62
September	13	161	752	0	752	23.5	32
October	12	151	666	1	667	20	33.35
November	12	148	676	1	677	21.5	31.49
December	11	145	674	3	677	24.75	27.35
Total	148	1073	6943	5	6948	234.75	29.6

# **TOTAL NUMBER OF JAIL IN-CUSTODY DEATHS**

In 2022 there were no in-custody deaths at the Monroe County Correctional Center.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF ESCAPES WHILE IN CUSTODY

There were no escapes from the Monroe County Correctional Center during the 2022 year.

# TOTAL NUMBER OF JUVENILES BOOKED INTO JAIL VIA WAIVER OR DIRECT FILE

There were three (3) juvenile bookings into the Correctional Center on waiver or direct file in 2022. This increased the number of juvenile bookings by two (2) more than 2021.

Charges for the arrests include:

- Attempted Murder-Warrant-Level 1 Felony
   Criminal Recklessness- Level 5 Felony
- Robbery- Level 3 Felony/Criminal Recklessness-Level 5 Felony/Possession of a Handgun Without a License/A- Misdemeanor
- Attempted Murder-Warrant-Level 1 Felony/Attempted Murder-Warrant-Level 1 Felony/Criminal Recklessness-Level 5 Felony

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES PROVIDED TO INMATES

# **Monroe County Adult Education Classes**

By Christopher Harmon, Teacher, Broadview Learning Center, Monroe County Community School Corporation:

The Monroe County Jail and MCCSC Adult Education programs collaborate to offer many types of opportunities for inmates that improve skills and earn various certifications. MCCSC Adult Ed has offered a class at MCJ since the Spring of 2016. Throughout that time, we have helped hundreds of inmates earn their High School Equivalency Diplomas (Formerly GED), WorkKeys Certifications, MSSC certifications, OSHA 10 certifications, and most recently ServSafe Food Manager Certifications and Essential SoftSkills Certifications from the Dept. of Workforce Development. Our class runs daily Mon-Friday from 1:00-3:30.

Here is some information about the programs we currently offer:

#### High School Equivalency Preparation and Testing

We help students who do not hold a high school diploma or GED prepare for the HiSet Exam to earn their High School Equivalency Diplomas. When a student is adequately prepared, our director Lily Albright comes to the jail and gives them the test. If successful, they earn their HSE (formerly GED). Part of our partnership is that the MCJ pays for the student's tests (\$100).

#### WIN Essential Soft Skills Training and Certification

Another training that we currently offer is the Essential Soft Skills training from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. Students receive training and then take an assessment to show mastery of these "soft skills". If passed, the students earn a certification from Indiana DWD.

The WIN Essential Soft Skills assessment is composed of questions measuring entry-level work tasks and behaviors, including communicating effectively; conveying professionalism; promoting teamwork and collaboration; and thinking critically and solving problems. The assessment items require the learner to choose two answers for each question, the "best" and "worst" answers for handling each situation.

Managers, workers, and supervisors from across industries identified the skills from the EFF Standards as critical for entry-level workers to succeed in today's workplace and global economy.

#### ServSafe Food Protection Manager Training and Certification

A ServSafe Manager Certification is a certificate for managers of food establishments that confirms their knowledge of proper food safety practices. In addition, it shows that the recipient has the skills to manage food safety within their restaurant. In many areas in the United States, including Indiana, obtaining this certificate is a requirement for managers of restaurants. The certification is recognized by the National Restaurant

Association for a period of five years and is issued by ServSafe upon successful completion of their course and after passing the final exam.

Having the certification can make you a more valuable asset for employers, which may be helpful for acquiring future foodservice industry positions. In addition, some food service businesses may require their staff to be certified, regardless of the local regulations. Finally, and most importantly, the knowledge that you can gain from becoming a ServSafe Certified Manager can put you and your coworkers' minds at ease by increasing the safety of your working environment.

The collaboration between MCCSC Adult Education and the Monroe County Jail is a true partnership. If there is ever anything that our program needs, the MCJ staff is very responsive to assist. We hope to continue this partnership for many years to come.

#### 2022 Data:

- 64 Students enrolled in classes. Students must attend 12 hours of class to be considered enrolled.
- 5 Students studied for GED's (81 Student hours).
- 59 Students participated in 14 ServSafe Trainings. (1408 Student Hours). Each training is approximately 3 weeks, or 15 classes.
- 1489 Total Student Hours were completed.
- 14 ServSafe training programs were provided.
- 37 Food Manager Certifications were earned out of 51 attempts.
- 23 WIN SoftSkills Certifications were earned through the Indiana Department of Workforce Development out of 26 attempts.

#### Centerstone

Centerstone hosts a re-entry program on Monday and Wednesday morning program at the classroom called "Helping Men Recover." It addresses substance use and trauma. The program module is organized into four modules that emphasize the core areas of men's recovery:

- 1. Self
- 2. Relationships
- 3. Sexuality
- 4. Spirtuality

#### **Middle Way House**

Middle Way House provides a Building Healthy Relationships curriculum. This BHR curriculum covers the following evidence-based prevention topics: power and control behaviors, equity and boundaries, sexual assault and affirmative consent, bystander intervention, and peer support. Middle Way House also connects those attending the groups to needed community resources.



**Mission Statement:** To support individuals who are currently incarcerated or have been recently released from incarceration with their reentry back into our community. **Contact:** 

**Executive Director:** Jordan McIntire

#### What We Do:

#### *Inside the Jail:*

Any individual is able to write to us through in-house mail to request support/resources. We will help with as much as we're able to, but common requests include:

Treatment applications
Reentry resource guides
Info on their next court
date

Housing applications
Property pick-up & storage
Submitting applications on their behalf

Reading glasses
Prescription glasses
Clothing postrelease

Additionally, we currently have one volunteer leading a workshop in the jail on Sunday afternoons. We would like to provide more reentry programming inside the jail to help set folks up for success upon their release.

We also facilitate the Read to Me program (in partnership with the Monroe County Public Library), which allows incarcerated individuals to be recorded reading a book to their child(ren) and then the recording and book is sent to the child(ren) free of charge.

#### Outside the Jail:

Once folks are released from incarceration, we encourage them to come to our office for reentry support. Again, we assist individuals with whatever needs they have that we're able to accommodate, but common requests include:

- Free access to basic needs: clothing, shoes, hygiene kits, and "other" resources
   \*Ponchos, hand warmers, etc. subject to availability
- Reentry Kits: \*Includes a backpack, clothing, hygiene kit, bus tickets
- Assistance with applying for treatment and/or transitional housing
- Referrals to Indiana Legal Services for assistance with criminal record expungement
- Assistance with signing up for SNAP, HIP, and a free cell phone
- Access to a phone, computers, and internet
- One-on-one reentry mentoring
- Proof of address form to obtain an Indiana ID
- Can use NLNL to receive mail
- Referrals for free haircuts
- Employment-related needs: resume, co cover letter, job search support
- Bus tickets
- Reading glasses & prescription glasses Assistance with obtaining copies of birth certificates

#### New Leaf, New Life - Data

#### Tracking Recidivism - Explanation

- Since June 2020, we've tracked recidivism rates on clients we would consider our mentees (meaning they've experienced incarceration and they've met with our case managers 2+ times for scheduled appointments).
- We have not collected data on time since being released from incarceration so some individuals may have been released the day of their intake with us, and some may have been released from incarceration months prior.
- We track their recidivism rates at 1-, 3-, 6- 9- and 12-months post intake date with us. We tried to break it down into these timeframes so we could see if there was a consistent span of time (e.g., between 3-6 months) where our clients were recidivating the most.
- We've been considering recidivism as being **reincarcerated** only. So, if someone gets an infraction, such as driving while not wearing a seatbelt, we're not considering that as

- recidivating. Additionally, if there is a warrant out for someone's arrest, we do not consider that as recidivating, as some warrants end up being recalled.
- We utilize MyCase.in.gov to track recidivism rates, so we're tracking recidivism throughout Indiana, not exclusively Monroe County.
- We track our recidivism rates in an Excel spreadsheet, which we update weekly. We track recidivism rates by color-coding the cells. If an individual recidivates, the cell is red, if they do not, the cell is green, if they're incarcerated during the time period we're checking, the cell is grey.

#### Example:

Intake	Last	First	DOB	1m	3m	6m	9m	12m
Date	Name	Name						
6/2/2020	Doe	John	7/11/1982	7/2/20	9/2/20	12/2/20	3/2/21	6/2/21
6/8/2020	Doe	Jane	3/8/1985	7/8/20	9/8/20	12/8/20	3/8/21	6/8/21
6/9/2020	Doe	Bryan	8/18/1990	7/9/20	9/9/20	12/9/20	3/9/21	6/9/21

#### In this example:

- John Doe had his mentee intake appointment with us on 6/2/2020. He did not recidivate for an entire year.
- Jane Doe had her intake appointment with us on 6/8/2020. She did not recidivate between 6/8/20-7/8/20 (1 month post). However, she experienced reincarceration sometime between 7/8/20-9/8/20 (3 months post). She left incarceration before 12/8/20 (6 months post) and did not recidivate for the remainder of our one year of tracking.
- Bryan Doe had his intake appointment with us on 6/9/2020. He experienced reincarceration sometime between 9/9/20-12/9/20 (6 months post). Bryan was in custody for the remainder of our one year of tracking (grey cells).

#### Mentee Recidivism - Data

- We're currently tracking recidivism rates for 575 (non-duplicated) individuals.
- # of individuals that have completed:
  - o 12 months of tracking: 341
  - o 9 months of tracking (includes individuals completing 12 months): 393
  - o 6 months of tracking (includes individuals completing 9 & 12 months): 459
  - o 3 months of tracking (include 6, 9, 12 months): 523
  - o 1 month of tracking (includes 3, 6, 9, 12 months): 559
  - o < 1 month of tracking: 16
- Overall Mentee Recidivism rates:

- Overall recidivism rate (includes ALL 575 individuals across all time intervals):
   23.13%
  - (133 people recidivated/575 total people)
- Only at 1 month post intake (# of individuals who recidivated between their intake date and 1 month post intake): 5.00%
  - (28 recidivated/559 people)
- Only at 3 months post intake (# of individuals who recidivated between 1 month post and 3 months post intake): 8.98%
  - (47 recidivated/523 people)
- Only at 6 months post intake (# of individuals who recidivated between 3- and 6-months post intake): 7.62%
  - (35 recidivated/459 people)
- Only at 9 months post intake (# of individuals who recidivated between 6- and 9-months post intake): 8.90%
  - (35 recidivated/393 people)
- Only at 12 months post intake (# of individuals who recidivated between 9- and 12-months post intake): 8.50%
  - (29 recidivated/341 people)

Based on this data, we can see that client recidivism rates are highest between 1-3 months post intake date (8.98%) and between 6-9 months post intake date (8.90%).

We're working on documenting the nature of our client's recidivism instances. We've started to track whether their recidivism was attributed to: a New Filing, Failure to Appear, Probation Violation, Non-Compliance, or Violation of a Special Court (reentry court, drug court, veterans court, etc.). We hope to have this data up to date for all past & current mentees by February 2022.

We are currently unaware of general recidivism rates for Monroe County. However, the 2023 Indiana Department of Corrections recidivism rate is 33.78%.

It's important to note that we believe we've had success with supporting & empowering our clients because of our community-based approach and ability to build relationships with our clients. Our reentry mentors/case managers both have lived experience with incarceration and substance use disorder. Because of our relationship with community organizations, our clients have autonomy in where they attend treatment, choose to live & work, etc.

#### Housing Recidivism - Data

- We received a grant from the Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe
  County in July 2022 (Heading Home Grant) to assist individuals leaving incarceration
  with deposit & first month's rent payments at sober living, treatment, and transitional
  housing units.
- Since July 2022, we've assisted 35 people with housing through this grant. Out of 35 people, 1 person has experienced reincarceration, making program recidivism rates 2.85%.
- Here is a breakdown of where these individuals are/were living:
  - o Amethyst House (Treatment/Sober Living): 6 people
  - o Robin & Trisha's House (Transitional Housing): 13 people
  - o College Square Apartments: 1 person
  - o Oxford Houses (Sober Living): 15 people total
    - Oxford House Ryder (females): 3
    - Oxford House Maya (females): 2
    - Oxford House Nova-Hayden (males): 3
    - Oxford House Sage (males): 2
    - Oxford House Libra (males): 4
    - Oxford House Eden Coe (males): 1

We're proud of this program and its current recidivism rate. Again, it's critical to note the importance of client autonomy in choosing where they would feel most comfortable living and receiving treatment based on their various needs. This community-based approach is paramount to client success.

#### **Letters from the Jail – Request Categories**

Any individual incarcerated at the Monroe County Correctional Center (MCCC) can correspond with us through in-house mail. Meaning, we have our own mailbox inside the jail (which we check ~three times each week), so folks who are incarcerated do not need access to envelopes and postage to write to us.

- Total # of letters received from the MCCC:
  - 0 2019: 2,479
  - o 2020: 2,335
  - 0 2021: 2,681
  - 0 2022: 2,164

Overall, we receive a variety of requests for support from individuals who are incarcerated. We've determined ten different categories/themes of requests we receive to determine what the greatest needs are of individuals who are incarcerated at the MCCC. The themes are explained

below, along with the number of requests received per year in each category. It should be noted that when we receive one letter, it typically contains multiple requests, which is why the number of requests documented is greater than the number of letters we've received. It should also be noted that we're unable to fulfill all requests we receive (that are outlined below), as some requests are against the rules of the jail and others are impossible to complete while someone is incarcerated.

- 1. **Assistance with Treatment:** includes requests for applications, assistance with submitting applications, checking in on submitted applications, assistance with scheduling phone calls with treatment centers.
- 2. **Assistance with Housing:** includes any requests for assistance with obtaining housing. Includes info requests on rapid-rehousing, transitional housing, sober living, info on landlords that accept individuals with evictions, etc.
- Health, Wellness, & Spiritual Health: includes requests for items such as print-outs of yoga poses, bible study resources, reading & prescription glasses, prayer mats, work outs using body weight, etc.
- 4. **Personal, Social, Entertainment:** includes requests for chess boards, print-outs of puzzles, coloring sheets, photos of family members, song lyrics, requests for someone to contact family members, etc.
- 5. **Legal Assistance:** includes requests for printing out case summaries and looking up future court dates (MyCase), requests for assistance with obtaining personal identification documents (birth certificates, ID's, social security cards, etc.)
- 6. **Living Essentials & Resource Guides:** includes requests for our Community Reentry Resource Guide, our Reentry Planning Workbook, reentry guides from other communities, and assistance with obtaining living essentials, such as food & clothing, once released.
- **7. Education:** Includes assistance with obtaining proof of education, GED information, FAFSA application requests, etc.
- 8. **Employment:** Includes any requests pertaining to employment, such as paper applications, requests for assistance with resume/cover letters, etc.
- 9. **Financial Assistance:** Includes any requests related to finances, such as assistance with taxes, stimulus checks, and low-cost attorneys, etc.
- 10. **Assistance with Transportation:** Includes requests for assistance with transportation to out-of-town treatment/sober living facilities, other out-of-town court appointments, etc.

	CATEGORIES										
YEAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
2019	1,753	522	406	313	304	109	96	48	25	3	
2020	1,793	708	355	651	526	329	97	55	90	8	
2021*	965	567	234	428	335	267	49	21	213	26	

<sup>\*2021</sup> data includes letters received January 2021-July 2021.

- We're currently working to analyze letter requests from August 2021 current.
- Based on the currently available data, we received 11,296 requests from January 2019-July 2021.
- Below is a breakdown of the percentage for each request category:

#### % of Requests ordered from GREATEST to LEAST:

- 1. Assistance with Treatment (39.93%)
- 2. Assistance with Housing (15.91%)
- 3. Personal, Social, Entertainment (12.32%)
- 4. Legal Assistance (10.31%)
- 5. Health, Wellness, & Spiritual Health (8.81%)
- 6. Living Essentials & Resource Guides (6.24%)
- 7. Financial Assistance (2.90%)
- 8. Education (2.14%)
- 9. Employment (1.09%)
- 10. Assistance with Transportation (.33%)

#### **CREATIVE WRITING**

# Women Writing in the Jail

By Laura Lasuertmer, Volunteer, New Leaf New Life, since 2010. Volunteer with Women Writing in the Jail, since 2011. Founder, Common Home Farm, a small, intentional community, in northern Monroe County:

Notebooks and pencils are brought in for participants. Women Writing for a Change raises money to fund this program at the jail, and all of their outreach programs.

The program offers writing circles for women on Saturday afternoons and weekly writing circles for men in A-Block and I-Block on Tuesday mornings. Each circle is about an hour long. The number of participants varies greatly. On average, there were four participants per class last year (2022). The women's circles averaged four women.

For the men's circle in 2022, they had 21 hours of class (21 one-hour classes) and served approximately 84 inmates (including repeat participants).

For the women's circle in 2022, there were nine hours of classes total and served approximately 36 women (including repeat participants).

#### **Feedback from Resident Creative Writing Participants:**

"This work is highly amazing because it has changed people's lives for the better."

"Creative writing helps with our self-reflection and self-growth."

"(In writing circles, we are) able to relieve pent up stress, thoughts, worries and anxiety."

"Creative writing at the jail is my centering and grounding as I change my life. I find this class is growing on me and more writing is soul food. Thank you."

"(Writing circle is) a chance to open your mind to your inner greatness."

#### Healthcare Enrollment.

In 2015, Indiana House Bill 1269 provided "that the DOC or the Sheriff shall assist a committed offender in applying for Medicaid and securing certain treatment upon discharge from the DOC or a county jail."

In 2022, 338 inmates were offered the opportunity for healthcare enrollment through Medicaid. 99 inmates applied for benefits, 224 declined, and 15 reported they had current insurance.

## **Liaison Officer**

Anthony Hibbert is the Monroe County Correctional Facility's Community Liaison Officer. His responsibilities include, but are not limited, to the following: "(He) serves as Liaison/Corrections Officer for Monroe County Jail, responsible for facilitating

inmate programs, assisting community partners, monitoring inmates, and providing assistance to inmates and their families. DUTIES: Assists with planning, organizing, and facilitating inmate programs within the Jail, such as recovery programs, library services, and community volunteer services. Determines eligibility and participation of inmates in programs and assists with training of program staff and community volunteers. Monitors and assists with inmate requests, including their families and friends when applicable, such as answering basic questions, providing status checks of inmates for families, assisting with obtaining document signatures, and arranging for inmate communication outside the facility. Inspects/reviews all incoming and outgoing U.S. mail and in-house mail, and determines acceptance or denial of inmate mail. Monitors inmate complaints concerning telephone and electronic tablet issues. Assists with resolving minor issues and schedules repair/maintenance for more complex issues.

#### **Religious Programs**

Unchained Ministry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church, Shiloh Temple, and the Gideons provide religious services and religious support. The Correctional Center also has a part-time Chaplain who approves religious diets, inmate wedding bands, and provides rosaries and requests for certain bibles. He provides counseling if requested. He also obtains prayer rugs and items for religious purposes.

## **Recreation**

Inmates who are not on a lockdown status are offered daily recreation, and are taken to the indoor or outdoor recreation areas, depending on the temperature, (over 60 degrees), and weather conditions. In the dayrooms of large lockdown blocks, we have fitness equipment available.

## Rehabilitation/Housing Resource Connections

Our Correction staff fields dozens of requests from inmates for connections with rehabilitation facilities or housing resources. After receiving a request, our staff separates the inmate from their housing area assignment and takes them to a room where they can call and have a private conversation and often, a first connection on the telephone with: Amethyst House, Hickory Treatment, Indiana Center for Recovery, Lighthouse, Recovery Works, Transitions, the Wheeler Mission, and Wooden Glen. In 2023, we have begun to collect data on how many inmates are connected with these resources by our Corrections staff.

#### Mental Health

# The State of Mental Health Treatment at Monroe County Correctional Center

#### By Rhonda Shotwell, LCSW, and Jim Baugh, LCSW:

The Monroe County Correctional Center has become the largest mental health facility in the county and surrounding counties. Many of our inmates experience significant mental health and substance use issues. As mental health professionals, we are charged with assessing and determining treatment for inmates, patients, while they are in our care. Our main tasks include close observation rounds, altered mental status (AMS) rounds, segregation / mental health rounds, patient requests, psychiatric assessments, and medication management, QMHP initiated, and referrals from other entities.

- Close observation rounds are completed daily for patients who have been identified as being at risk for suicide, homicide, or self-harm. Close observation rounds are crucial in the jail setting as suicide is the most prevalent means of death in this setting. Patients can also be placed on Mental Health Observation Status when they are experiencing concerning mental health symptoms without suicidality or thoughts of self-harm. Patients are assessed for risk and are placed accordingly in order to ensure safety in the least restricted environment.
- AMS rounds are completed daily for patients who arrive at the jail and appear to be under the influence of substances. Patients are assessed to determine if they are intoxicated so that they can attend court sober and make rational decisions.
- Segregation rounds / mental health rounds are conducted weekly. Patients who
  are housed on a locked down unit and are in a cell alone are seen at cell front in
  order to conduct a mental status assessment and determine if a more intensive
  assessment should be completed. Patients are more likely to mentally and
  emotionally decompensate with long periods of being alone.
- Patients submit requests if they desire to speak with a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP). Patients are seen privately in a conference room for mental health assessments and for mental health sessions. With two conference rooms for the jail, there is sometimes not an available room.
- Patients with mental health needs which require medication are seen by the Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (NP). The NP assesses mental health diagnoses

- and prescribes psychotropic medications, if indicated. Patients are followed by the NP during their stay at the jail.
- The QMHPs meet with patients who are taking psychotropic medications on a quarterly basis in order to check mental status and assess for psychotropic medication side effects.
- Patients can be referred to mental health by medical and custody staff. Our custody staff is experienced in recognizing mental health symptoms and refers patients often.

Current challenges include limited housing for acute patients, appropriate housing and programming for patients with mental health and substance use needs, and discharge planning.

The large number of patients with severe mental illness and substance use has led to significant challenges as the jail was not built with these populations in mind. As individuals with serious mental illness are brought into our facility, they often are not taking the medications that they have been prescribed. In addition, they may be using other illegal substances in an attempt to self-medicate. The individual may be exhibiting behaviors that are not conducive to housing with other inmates. At the current facility, there are six segregation cells and one padded cell which are used to house inmates separately for any number of reasons, including mental health, suicidality, substance intoxication or withdraw, medical, and correctional reasons. These cells are at a premium and often inmates must be moved around in an attempt to accommodate everyone's needs.

Inmates (patients) with mental health needs are often housed alone on a 23/1 basis as they may struggle to interact with peers in proximity. Social isolation may lead to increased mental health symptoms. The jail recently established a mental health block which houses a majority of our patients with more severe mental health needs. Housing mental health patients together in a single unit helps prevent victimization by other inmates, allows them to be monitored more closely by mental health staff, and will allow for an increased ability to provide programming.

Programming for those with mental illness and substance use disorders is desperately needed. MCCC currently has two full time QMHPs and a NP who prescribes medications. Due to the number of patients with acute needs, there is little time left for programming. Groups on the mental health unit is seen as a priority, which we must begin to focus on.

MCCC has many repeat patients. Patients with mental illness and substance use disorders are arrested often for low level offenses, fail to follow up with their probation officer, or bounce from county to county. Mental health patients are stabilized in the jail, but find it difficult to have consistent follow up when released. Often, they then stop taking their medications, and reoffend. Patients with substance use disorders often return to the same environment (people, places, and things) and return to using substances. This leads to a high rate of recidivism. Case management in the jail will help ensure that patients have supports in the community when they are released. Continuation of medication management, supports to help a patient to stay sober, assistance in securing housing and employment, and assistance in securing food all help to reduce the recidivism rates.

In response to the needs of the jail, a wish list of features for the new jail would include:

- An increased number of segregation and padded cells, so that patients in distress can be closely monitored to ensure safety.
- A mental health unit and a substance use unit which can focus on the unique needs of these populations and provide programming in the unit.
- Individual offices for QMHPs so that patients can be seen in a private setting, without the limitations the conference rooms provide.
- A dedicated mental health custody staff member to monitor, from outside the offices, mental health sessions and be in the units when mental health / substance use groups are taking place.
- A substance use counselor, to provide evidence-based substance use treatment in the jail.
- AA / NA meetings in the jail, so that patients may have supports in the community upon their release.
- A discharge planner / case worker, to provide case management and set up services in the community prior to release.

In conclusion, we expect mental, medical, and substance use needs of patients in the jail to increase in this community. Modern jails cannot do business as it has been done in the past. We need to be forward thinking and anticipate future needs. Our hope is that design changes, more intense treatment and programming, and case management to address needs upon return to the community will lower recidivism rates and, ultimately, the number of people incarcerated.

				Patient	Custody	Medical	QMHP	
2022	Observation	AMS	Segregation	Init.	Init.	Init.	Init.	<b>Psychiatry</b>
Jan.	181	0	120	33	7	5	0	0
Feb.	114	0	145	28	0	1	0	0
March	164	0	197	31	2	0	0	0
April	130	0*	127	22	8	0	1	0**
May	129	8	134	32	5	0	8	15
June	170	84	120	32	2	1	3	24
July	143	79	108	22	2	0	1	15
Aug.	180	80	146	31	4	3	7	25
Sept.	208	76	115	25	2	0	0	25
Oct.	156	53	112	21	1	0	4	20
Nov.	151	62	152	17	0	0	8	25
Dec.	143	61	115	9	0	0	3	5
Totals	1726	503	1591	303	33	10	35	154

4,355 Patient encounters were made by our QMHP's or a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner in 2022. "Encounters" means risk assessments, clinical contacts, segregation rounds, referrals by Medical, Custody staff, family members of inmates, courts, or patient request.

#### **Key to Table:**

"Observation:" are patients who are placed on suicide watch or mental health watch. "Segregation:" are the number of patients housed alone or on 23/1 status due to safety concerns for them or others. "Patient Init." are patient--initiated requests to see Mental Health Staff. "Custody Init." are correctional staff-initiated referrals for a patient to see our mental health staff. "Medical Init." are medical staff-initiated mental health referrals of patients and QMHP Init. are patient referrals by Qualified Mental Health Professionals (QMHP). Psychiatry data includes numbers of patients referred to and seen by a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner.

<sup>\*</sup>AMS (Altered Mental Status) assessments were completed by nursing staff prior to May 2022.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Monthly data was not collected on Psychiatry referrals in 2022 until May.

#### A Statement on Maintenance and Upkeep of the Jail:

The roof of the Correctional Center leaks water into the facility's laundry room and must be repaired or replaced. A temporary water diversion apparatus has been installed inside the laundry room directly above the dryer units by maintenance staff to capture leaking water. There is high voltage electrical equipment in operation in this room. Jail Trustees work in this room daily.

A commercial dryer is broken and needs to be replaced, however, until the roof is repaired we cannot responsibly install a replacement dryer which is directly below the primary area of leaks in this room. A quote on a new dryer replacement, a Continental KT 75-85, is \$8,828.00. The broken dryer has been out of service for several years, which increases the demand and wear on our other two dryers.

Each cell in the block areas of the facility has a metal grate that has been bolted over each windowsill area to protect the window. Between the grate and the window is an accumulation of years of dirt and trash. No clean outs were installed on the grates. Every grate needs to have an access port cut into them, and a mechanism installed to secure the access, to properly clean out the windows areas.

ASI, who is contracted to perform facility maintenance at the Correctional Center, reported that in 2022:

- A water heating mixing valve in the jail was replaced.
- A VFD Drive (Variable Frequency Drive) that controls air flow in the jail was replaced.
- Light controls in day rooms were rewired to bypass old relays.
- Inmate Worker showers were repaired.
- 4 Different cell doors had welding work performed on them.

Cell door locks are not adequate, and have been compromised several times resulting in staff and inmate assaults. A more robust wedge-style lock on the doors was reviewed several years ago but was deemed to be cost prohibitive. Numerous jail windows leak. Jail ductwork has not been cleaned and inmate cell airflow has suffered as a consequence of vent obstruction.

A full-time Facility Coordinator position was approved in March of 2023 for the primary purpose of leading preventative maintenance checks and cleanliness of the Correctional facility and grounds. His work began immediately.

## A Statement on the Adequacy of Jail Staffing Levels:

In 2022, 21 Jail Deputies separated employment from the Correctional Center; a 33.8% turnover rate in one year. At present, we are 5 Jail Deputies short of a full staff and are working to achieve a full staff roster.

# <u>Unfunded Needs and Projects Essential for Jail Operation and</u> Maintenance

J-Block, with 16 cells and 32 beds, has been repurposed into a mental health dorm. Cameras should be installed in each cell. Our two jail conference rooms lack video and audio capabilities. There are numerous blind spots requiring cameras in the correctional center. These projects will require cabling to be installed and additional video storage capacity. We are in the process of obtaining estimates for this.

The Correctional Facility's intercom system audio is not being recorded. All inmates utilize the intercom system routinely, and in the event of any crisis. In the event of a complaint of abusive use of the system by inmates or staff, or, in the investigation of an incident in the proximity of an activated intercom, the event is not being audio recorded. An intercom recorder is vital in the investigation of jail incidents, inmate complaints against officers, or in disciplinary allegations against inmates. An estimate obtained from SAS is \$22,035.00.

The ductwork in the jail needs to be cleaned. Staff members routinely report sinus and allergy related respiratory conditions. The windowsill areas in every cellblock window need to be mechanically accessed and cleaned. All of the interior walls of the jail need to be repainted, (in process and as funding permits), and maintained, with regular cleaning and repainting as required. The Correctional Center roof must be properly repaired or replaced.

# The Average Length of Stay for all Inmates housed in the Jail

The average length of stay as of December 31, 2022 for all inmates housed in the jail in 2022 was 16 days and 11 hours.