



DOC FRIENDS & FAMILY FORUM

October 15, 2025 • Milwaukee





WELCOME

Your voices matter!

Why we're here today



LISTEN

to your concerns and suggestions



LEARN

how to better serve families



WORK TOGETHER

to support successful reentry and
safe communities



About the Department of Corrections

Our Mission

- Protect the public, our staff, and those in our care
- Provide opportunities for positive change and growth
- Promote, inform, and educate others about our programs and successes
- Partner with community service providers and other criminal justice groups

Our Vision

To achieve excellence in correctional practices while fostering safety for all.

Guiding Principles

Integrity

Act ethically and transparently.

Teamwork

Strengthen partnerships and build community.

Respect

Consider varied perspectives and treat everyone with dignity.

Accountability

Strive for positive outcomes and uphold standards.

Evidence-Based Results

Use research and data to inform decision-making and achieve meaningful impact.

Strategic Priorities



Safety

We are dedicated to creating and sustaining safe environments for all.

By reducing risk, clarifying procedures and sharing responsibility for safety, we strengthen our ability to protect people, property, and our mission.



Wellness

We recognize that every person's well-being is essential to both their own success and the long-term success of the agency. By fostering a culture of wellness—physical, emotional, and psychological—we promote resilience, reduce burnout, and support healthier environments.



Collaboration

We are committed to working together across divisions, disciplines, and with partners, including families of residents, community providers, and others who support successful reentry, to deliver consistent, evidence-based correctional interventions.



Consistency

We commit to applying strategic priorities consistently across all areas of the agency to promote alignment and unity.

Safety

We are dedicated to creating and sustaining safe environments for all. By reducing risk, clarifying procedures and sharing responsibility for safety, we strengthen our ability to protect people, property, and our mission.

- Implement division-specific safety audits and ensure compliance with applicable laws and agency policies
- Reduce contraband
- Implement leave practices that ensure safe, dependable staffing levels while prioritizing staff well-being
- Establish agency intelligence unit to support safety-related decision-making and risk identification
- Enhance quality assurance



Wellness

We recognize that every person's well-being is essential to both their own success and the long-term success of the agency. By fostering a culture of wellness—physical, emotional and psychological—we promote resilience, reduce burnout, and support healthier environments.

- Improve staff onboarding
- Enhance employee retention and resilience
- Balance workloads
- Enhance physical and mental health for staff and persons in our care
- Ensure ADA compliance
- Constructive use of idle time



Collaboration

We are committed to working together across divisions, disciplines and with partners—including families of residents, community providers and others who support successful reentry—to deliver consistent, evidence-based correctional interventions.

- Expand and optimize evidence-based programs and services
- Develop a strategic priorities communication plan and measurement
- Upgrade IT and technology
- Unify transition and case planning
- Streamline committees and task forces
- Align meetings for cross-divisional collaboration
- Host Friends and Family Forums to strengthen communication, trust, and reentry support



Consistency

We commit to applying strategic priorities consistently across all areas of the agency to promote alignment and unity.

- Align workplans with strategic goals
- Tracking and measurement



Listening

It's your turn to do the talking. We're splitting into smaller groups to hear about your concerns and ideas on a variety of subjects. Groups will rotate and everyone will have a chance to discuss each strategic priority.



Next Steps

- A survey should be arriving via email where you can offer your feedback on the forum and ideas for future meetings
- PowerPoint will be posted to the Friends and Family page on our website
- Look for additional information on our website and we will also continue to update our Friends and Family Resource Guide



Connect with DOC

doc.wi.gov/friendsandfamily



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Scan to view the
**Friends & Family
Resource Guide**



THANK YOU

surveymonkey.com/r/DOCforumfeedback