

New Lisbon Correctional Institution



ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021



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ACRONYMS

ACT	ANGER CONTROL TRAINING
ADA	AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
BCE	BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL ENTERPRISES
CRB	COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD
DOC	DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
ERP	EARNED RELEASE PROGRAM
FY	FISCAL YEAR
HSU	HEALTH SERVICES UNIT
HVAC	HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR CONDITIONING
ICE	INSTITUTION COMPLAINT EXAMINER
ICRS	PIOC COMPLAINT REVIEW SYSTEM
LEP	LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY
MICA	MENTAL ILLNESS CHEMICAL ABUSE
NLCI	NEW LISBON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION
PREA	PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT
PSU	PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES UNIT
PIOC	PERSONS IN OUR CARE
RHU	RESTRICTIVE HOUSING UNIT
SHU	SPECIAL HANDLING UNIT
SO	SEX OFFENDER
SUD	SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER
T4C	THINKING FOR A CHANGE
WRC	WISCONSIN RESOURCE CENTER
WSPF	WISCONSIN SECURE PROGRAM FACILITY

INSTITUTION CONTACT INFORMATION:

Facility Primary Phone Number:	(608)562-6400
ADA COORDINATORS:	
Timothy Thomas Ext. 7360	Deputy Warden
Sarah Goodman Ext. 7376	Education Director
Melanie Harper Ext. 7301	Program Supervisor
COMPAS COORDINATOR:	
Melanie Harper Ext. 7301	Program Supervisor
LEP COORDINATORS:	
Vacant	
PREA COMPLIANCE MANAGERS:	
Brian Cahak Ext. 7351	Security Director
Corey Rahlf Ext. 7353	Administrative Captain



MESSAGE FROM THE WARDEN'S OFFICE

****Accomplishments and Highlights****

Welcome to New Lisbon Correctional Institution's (NLCI) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21). This annual report provides information to those who hold us accountable in the use of resources and treatment of the individuals housed at NLCI. What it does not show is the daily dedication of those who work here. The operation of a prison requires staff from all disciplines, working together, to keep the institution not just operational, but safe and secure for Persons in our Care (PIOC), staff, and the community we serve. The accomplishments in this report highlight the dedication and commitment of NLCI's staff.

Along with the rest of the world, the pandemic shut down many institutional operations during FY21. Administrative rules were suspended, movement was limited, and every attempt was made to keep the virus out of the institution, continuously altering the way we conduct business as we continued to move forward. We all learned new words such as telecommute, Zoom, quarantine/isolation, mass testing, entrance screening, and video visitation, drastically changing our lives. NLCI as well as the entire Wisconsin Department of Corrections continues to be affected by the COVID 19 virus. National recommendations continue to be followed with processes updated as necessary to mitigate the risk of spread for both staff and PIOC. During the latter part of this reporting period, we began to know more about COVID 19 as well as obtained the ability to receive a vaccine for the virus. The ability to receive the COVID 19 vaccine was extended to NLCI staff as well as the PIOC. We were also able to restore some sense of normalcy by reestablishing face to face visits between PIOC and their loved ones in early summer 2021.

NLCI has continued to emphasize reentry planning and transitioning into communities throughout Wisconsin and have continued to provide adult basic education, career and technical education, and primary programming opportunities. These programs provide the PIOC with relevant resources and skills to address criminogenic needs in the goal of reducing the rate of recidivism. Additionally, during this timeframe, we have added the Earned Release and Substance Use Disorder program and our first of it's kind mobile job center is fully functioning; connecting PIOC to employment options and the opportunity to secure gainful employment prior to release.

No annual report on operations at NLCI would be complete without special mention of the people who make up the work force at this institution. Working in a correctional institution is unlike any other profession. There are challenges, expectations, demands, pressures, and risks unknown to most other occupations. The staff here do an amazing job performing difficult tasks under difficult conditions. As our motto states: "at NLCI we make it happen." Yet for most, they simply consider it "part of the job."

Thank you for taking time to review this report and the scope of services offered at NLCI. The dedication and commitment of our staff is evident in these pages and we will continue to serve Wisconsin and the DOC in the years to come.

Daniel Winkleski
Warden



FACILITY MISSION and GOALS

Mission

New Lisbon Correctional Institution is committed to the safety, security, and protection of the public, staff and Persons in our Care (PIOC) in a humane and constructive manner. PIOC will be held accountable for their actions and the positive or negative consequences associated with those choices. We will encourage PIOC to develop goals conducive to positive release planning and reentry into society. We strive to provide PIOC with a set of positive behavioral options to enhance their successful reintegration back into society.

Goals

PIOC are strongly encouraged to pursue all education, programming, and work opportunities available to them. Motivation, accepting responsibility, self-worth and self-advancement are the keys to positive change.

NLCI is committed to being a good neighbor by working in partnership with the community on common interests and having a positive effect on the community.

The Department of Corrections has placed a high priority on improving prisoner reentry. NLCI will hold PIOC responsible and promote their success throughout the duration of their incarceration. In doing so, we strive for fewer victims, less crime, reduced criminal justice costs, and safer communities.

NLCI is focused on providing PIOC with skills for successful reentry into the community. A large part of our focus is not only how we manage the behavior of our PIOC, but also how we engage and motivate them. PIOC are encouraged to use their time wisely to prepare for their return to the community, to follow the rules, to respect staff and other PIOC, and to work hard in the treatment and educational programs offered at NLCI. In return, our commitment is to work with them to be successful as an employee, family member, and citizen.

FAST FACTS



Opened: **April 4, 2004**

Security Level: **Medium**

Operating Capacity: **950**

Current Population: **927**

Officer/Sergeant Staff: **193** (147 Officers/46 Sergeants)

Non-officer/Sergeant Staff: **104**

PIOC to staff ratio: **3:1**

Total Staff: **297**

Number of Acres: **100**

Operating Budget: **\$26,835,378.17**



PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AND COMPLETION

Academic

NLCI had an average of 134 full-time and part-time students enrolled in both academic and vocational programming per month. Three PIOC earned their General Equivalency Diploma during FY21.

Vocational

During FY21, NLCI offered three vocational programs in conjunction with Western Technical College, Baking, Electrical Mechanical and Wood Technology which includes Cabinet Making and Residential Framing. During FY21, our vocational students earned a total of 3 certificates in Baking, 18 certificates in Electrical Mechanical and 7 certificates in Wood Technology.

Second Chance Pell returned to NLCI during FY21. We currently have 10 students enrolled through Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) working toward their associate degree.

Correspondence Courses

Correspondence courses are approved courses of instruction which allow an PIOC the opportunity to participate in post-secondary educational opportunities through distance education. There was an average of 6 PIOC enrolled in correspondence classes monthly.

Personal Development

NLCI provides college-level personal development courses. NLCI had PIOC enrolled in college-level courses to include Mathematics, Applied Math-Bakery, Applied Math-Woods, and computer literacy.

Reentry Initiatives

In efforts to align treatment programming with evidence-based practice, the Department transitioned from formal classroom delivery of these modules to making informational materials available in the library as a resource for PIOC who would benefit from the information. The Education Department continues to provide Health, Wellness and Employability course work as needed to meet the requirements of the HSED.

NLCI also offers Windows to Work, a pre-release and post-release program in partnership with Wisconsin's Workforce Development Boards. Individual and group participation begins approximately three to nine months prior to release from incarceration. Participants receive group programming related to Cognitive Intervention, general work skills, financial literacy, community resources, job seeking, applications and resumes. Instruction was done virtually in FY21 due to contracted staff being unable to enter the institution during COVID 19 restrictions.

During FY21, 5 participants completed Windows to Work.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is cognitive-behavioral based program designed for male offenders who have shown a pattern of abuse/violence to their significant and intimate partners. The curriculum is designed to help batterers identify their own cognitions that have justified violence and enabled them to be abusive to their partners and teach them skills to change their thoughts/beliefs that have led to their abusive behaviors. A major program objective is for the participant to be able to identify alternative beliefs and intervention strategies to end their criminal and abusive behaviors as well as learn and demonstrate non-abusive and non-controlling behaviors.

During FY21, 16 participants completed the Domestic Violence program. (These numbers were down from previous years due to COVID restrictions which included mandated suspension of groups for a period of time and smaller group sizes.)



Sex Offender Treatment

NLCI conducts Sex Offender Treatment which includes three different levels. The Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOT-2) is a 100-hour treatment group. It currently runs twice a week for six months. It covers topics such as offense disclosure, denial and minimization, victim empathy, cognitive distortions, criminal thinking, and re-offense prevention. Both written homework assignments and group participation are expected. SOT-2 is facilitated by psychological services, social workers and contracted staff to groups of up to 12 PIOC at a time. During FY21 23 PIOC completed the SOT-2 program. These numbers were down significantly due to COVID restrictions which included mandated suspension of groups for a period of time and smaller group sizes. Additionally, NLCI is now the only institution within the Wisconsin DOC providing treatment to Sexual Offenders whose only offense was involving Child Pornography (SOT-CPO). This treatment is somewhat shorter than SOT-2 as it typically lasts for five months and runs for approximately 80-90 hours. The SOT-2 curriculum has been adapted to better fit the needs of these individuals and covers many of the same areas that were mentioned in regard to SOT-2. There were 8 SOT-CPO completions during the FY21. Finally, SOT-1 is conducted when there is a need. During FY21 one SOT-1 group was conducted with 11 group members completing. SOT-1 is an 18-hour psychoeducation group that covers issues like problem solving, healthy relationships, risk factors, and protective factors among other topics.

During FY21, 42 total participants completed a SOT program at NLCI

Cognitive Behavioral Program

The Cognitive Behavioral Program *Thinking for A Change* (T4C) is designed to assist people with identifying and restructuring thought processes that may lead to poor outcomes for themselves or others. The programs teach participants specific skills that assist them in identifying, controlling and changing the personal thinking patterns and underlying beliefs that support their criminal behaviors. Along with cognitive restructuring, participants are taught a number of social skills and problem-solving steps. The goal is not to *make* the PIOC change, but to *motivate* the PIOC to change himself. T4C lasts approximately four months and consists of group discussions, situational role play, and homework assignments. In order to successfully complete the program, participants must actively participate in groups, satisfactorily complete all homework assignments and demonstrate they have acquired the specific skills taught in the program.

During FY21, 6 participants completed Thinking for a Change Cognitive Behavioral Program. (These numbers were down from previous years due to COVID restrictions which included mandated suspension of groups for a period of time and smaller group sizes.)

Anger Control Training

Anger Control Training (ACT) is a cognitive-behavioral based program designed to address the needs of violent offenders whose aggressive behaviors tend to be impulsive and reactive rather than instrumental and pre-planned. In addition to cognitive restructuring, ACT teaches participants cognitive and interpersonal skills to deter and replace violent behaviors. These skills include stress management, impulse control strategies, assertiveness skills, communication skills, identifying personal anger precursors (thoughts and situations that provoke angry reactions), handling criticism and provocation. Lessons are presented to groups of 10 to 12 offenders. Group sessions are generally 90 minutes in length and held twice weekly.

During FY21, 16 participants completed ACT. (These numbers were down from previous years due to COVID restrictions which included mandated suspension of groups for a period of time and smaller group sizes.)



Substance Use Disorder/Earned Release Program

With tremendous assistance and support from a multi-disciplinary team of staff, NLCI was happy to develop and implement Substance Use Disorder/Earned Release Programming (SUD/ERP). The SUD/ERP programming offered at NLCI operates through use of Cognitive Behavioral Programs (CBP) which often combines cognitive restructuring theory with cognitive skills theory to help participants take control of their lives by taking control of their thinking. This program is based on evidence-based practices and is consistent with that being offered throughout the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. The core programs utilized for SUD/ERP are Thinking for a Change and Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse. Groups are facilitated by AODA certified Treatment Specialists and have an average of 10 participants per group. In order to successfully complete the program, participants must actively participate in groups, satisfactorily complete all homework assignments, and demonstrate they have acquired the specific skills taught in the program. Our first SUD/ERP group began on January 11, 2020.

During FY21, 3 participants completed SUD, & 3 participants completed ERP.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Restorative Justice

There are a multitude of Restorative Justice efforts which take place at NLCI throughout the year. These include:

Victim Offender Dialogue – This is a process which allows victims and PIOC to meet in a safe setting with a facilitator and provides the victim an opportunity to ask questions, state concerns, and directly express to the PIOC exactly how the offense has affected them and their families' lives. This dialogue offers an approach to criminal justice which seeks to restore the victim as completely as possible and hold PIOC accountable for their behaviors.

Victim Witness Surcharge/Restitution/Child Support Obligations – Court ordered payments in these areas are collected by the Business Office to assist crime victims with expenses, reimburse victims for losses sustained in a crime, and reimburse custodial parents for child rearing costs.

Victim Appearance at End of Parole Commission Hearings – Victims have valuable input into statements provided to the court prior to sentencing and again when an PIOC is being reviewed for release into the community. During FY21, one request was processed at NLCI for a victim to attend a Parole hearing. This attendance took place via telephone.

Restorative Justice Group - The philosophy of Restorative Justice emphasizes the importance of holding PIOC personally accountable for their criminal behavior while creating healing and/or learning opportunities for and involvement of victims, community members and the PIOC in the justice process. During each session, participants gain an understanding of how PIOC, victims and the community are inter-connected in addressing issues of crime, punishment, restoration and accountability. Participants have an opportunity to learn from guest speakers, including victims/survivors of crime and other community members, facilitators and from each other through group discussions. Restorative Justice provides PIOC an opportunity to explore their personal beliefs while interacting with positive role models and learning about topics that may help them make better choices in the future. Interest for the program continues to grow as word spreads of the positive impact it has on participants.



Community Services

Community Relations Board - The DOC encourages and supports the creation of a Community Relations Board (CRB) for all facilities in the Division of Adult Institutions. The CRB is intended to act as a positive link between the facility and the community in which it is located. Community stakeholders attend meetings and the Board reviews institution progress and input from members regarding operational activities.

Fundraising/Community Services Donations – Fundraising activities were coordinated throughout the fiscal year to raise awareness of the importance of charitable giving and helping less fortunate individuals in the community. The total funds collected were \$4839.76. NLCI presented \$1800.00 from the facility’s holiday sales event to the local American Legion Post 110 to support the construction of a Veteran’s Memorial in the city of New Lisbon. The institution partnered with Pizza Ranch of Baraboo for a chicken dinner fundraiser. A total of \$3039.76 was presented to Brighter Tomorrows, an agency serving survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Monroe County. In addition to fundraising events, donations were collected by staff for Hope House of South Central Wisconsin during Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October 2020. NLCI joined Jackson Correctional Institution in donating personal care items and a total of \$320 from staff members and the Vocational Bakery pizza crust/kit sale to the Tomah VA Medical Center in December 2020. NLCI also provided a donation from the Vocational Wood Technology Program to the Chi-Hi Extravaganza in Chippewa Falls.

OTHER PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES AND SERVICES

Chapel Services

Weekly opportunities for worship and/or study groups are available for Protestant, Jehovah’s Witness, Catholic, Islamic, and Native American/American Indian PIOC. The Buddhist and Pagan groups both meet with their spiritual leader twice per month. Other individual practices are facilitated through pastoral visits, both in person and virtually, or by individual observance. Additional opportunities available through the Chapel include a weekly Bible Study facilitated virtually by Calvary Chapel Madison, a Bi-Weekly Baptist Bible study facilitated in-person by Trinity Baptist Church, Reedsburg, WI, a Bi-Weekly Mindfulness Meditation, and a multi-faith meditation practice facilitated by volunteers from the Wisconsin Mindfulness Program. Additionally, Chapel Library provides publications and literature for all faiths. Religious studies through instructional DVDs and CDs are also offered. NLCI also facilitates participation in the Angel Tree program which allows PIOC the opportunity to select and give toys to their children during the holiday season. Also, a creative writing and poetry class is facilitated by an outside volunteer once per month.

Volunteers - Volunteers are a vital resource for the institution, and especially the Chapel as they provide spiritual support to the PIOC population at NLCI. There are over 130 volunteers who are available to contribute countless hours of their personal time to help provide religious activities, pastoral visits or other forms of spiritual support. Volunteers represent all DOC umbrella religious affiliations as well as Alcoholics Anonymous, Poetry class, and Drawing class. Volunteers also assist with the OccuPaws Program and with providing services or training to PIOC with ADA needs.

Library Services

NLCI offers comprehensive library services to both general population and RHU PIOC. **General Library** services are available every day from 7:50 a.m. to 8:50 p.m. A variety of daily newspapers, weekly and monthly periodicals, reference materials, and general educational and leisure materials are available for use. The NLCI library employs eight PIOC workers. Additional services offered through NLCI’s library include reference services, book club, financial aid packets, notary services, photocopying and law library. The library organizes around 12,700 books. All NLCI PIOC have library accounts.



Recreation

Recreation staff regularly includes two Recreation Leaders. Recreational opportunities available to the PIOC include the following leagues: horseshoes, handball, sand volleyball, running club, indoor and outdoor volleyball, basketball, Ultimate Frisbee, whiffle ball, Pickle ball and shuffleboard. Structured fitness classes including yoga, step aerobics, weightlifting instruction, exercise ball (core training), and boot camp are also available throughout the year. The Recreation Department also offers a low-impact aerobics class for PIOC identified as having limited physical abilities. Additionally, the Recreation Department is responsible for the supervision of hobby property and the music room.

OccuPaws Program

The OccuPaws Program allows 20 participants to train 10 service dogs in a partnership with the OccuPaws Guide Dog Association. The first dog arrived at NLCI as part of this program on December 4, 2019. While at NLCI, the dogs will receive approximately four months of training in socialization, basic manners and obedience before transitioning to the next level in their training program. This program takes place on Delta Unit and includes a resource room, a grooming room, and the OccuPark exercise yard. OccuPaws staff provide formal dog training in NLCI’s Visiting Room while participants provide informal dog training on the housing unit and exercise yard. Since the program began, 42 dogs have transitioned to the next level of training.

Veterans Program

The Veterans Wing on Delta Unit has been established as a community of incarcerated veterans with a focus on continued support and service to others. Participation in this program is voluntary. Those who apply to be a part of the program are screened for conduct, work and programming history. They are expected to display positive conduct and attitudes and demonstrate a willingness to assist and support others. Veterans have access to a designated group room on the housing unit where they may participate leisure time activities and have access to veteran related resources. Veterans also have opportunities to be connected with resources in the community related to a variety of benefits available to them. Monthly virtual meetings are conducted with the Juneau County Veterans Service Officer upon request from Veterans.

Work Assignments

Industries: BCE-Badger State Industries; Hydro-stripping, which includes the remanufacture, repair and reconfiguration of highway, and all types of informational signs. Materials may vary from aluminum to Plexiglas. Duties range from janitorial to high tech hydro-stripper operation and maintenance and repair. Shear and Punch Press set up and operation along with blue print reading, are also part of the operation.

Institution: PIOC hold a wide variety of jobs throughout the institution to include, but not limited to tutor, janitor, maintenance and unit positions. Please refer to the Business Office section for PIOC completion information.

OTHER DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

BUSINESS OFFICE

PIOC Income and Obligation Report:

YEAR-TO-DATE SUMMARY	
PIOC Wages	
Institution Pay:	\$247,685.89
BCE:	\$21,592.67
Total:	\$269,278.56

TOTAL MONIES COLLECTED FROM PIOC IN FY21	
Victim/Witness & DNA	\$59,672.55
Child Support	\$50,524.58
Court Ordered Obligations	\$46,044.91
Medical Co-Payments	\$7,422.99
Institution Restitution	\$2,820.65
Total:	\$166,485.68



FOOD SERVICE

The Food Service Department is regularly staffed by a Food Service Administrator, a Food Service Manager and eight Corrections Food Service Leaders between 4 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily. During this reporting period there were approximately 1,078,575 meals served and the average meal cost was \$1.16/meal for average daily population. The Food Service Department also provided approximately 40 special medical and religious diets and 20 snack bags daily for the year. The NLCI garden harvested 21,759.25 pounds of produce which was used by both Food Service and the Vocational bakery program in addition to a spring plant sale for staff.

HEALTH SERVICES UNIT (HSU)

The Health Services Unit (HSU) is staffed from 6 a.m. - 9:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Weekend and holiday hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 p.m., with a nurse on-call during non-nursing hours. The HSU is managed by one Health Services Manager and there is one full-time physician. Additional staff includes: one full-time nurse clinician 4, six full-time registered nurses, and one full-time Medical Program Assistant Associate. The HSU is health services unit is additionally supported by agency staff including an LPN and Medical Assistants The dental unit consists of one dentist, one dental assistant and one dental hygienist. A psychiatrist provides services two days per week, and a physical therapist provides services two days per week.

The HSU provides treatment for acute and chronic illness. On-site services provided through the HSU include physician and nursing appointments, emergency care, medication administration and delivery, laboratory, and radiology services which include on-site digital x-ray and ultrasound. There are optical services onsite. including eye exams, eye health and glaucoma screening. Additional onsite services include non-surgical orthopedic consultation.

The Health Service Unit utilizes an Electronic Medical Record. Central Pharmacy in Waupun provides patient prescriptions and refills as well as vaccinations.

Comprehensive specialty treatment is provided off-site at medical facilities at Mile Bluff Medical Center in Mauston, Black River Falls, Gunderson Hospital and Clinics in La Crosse, SSM Health in Waupun, and the University Hospital and Clinics – Madison. NLCI also conducts telemedicine, video, and telephone visits with specialists at off-site medical facilities. Urgent and emergent specialty care is provided locally at Mile Bluff Medical Center in Mauston.

MAINTENANCE

The Maintenance Department hours are from 7:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Maintenance staff include: one Building and Grounds Superintendent, one Office Operations Assistant, one Electronic Technician, one Electrician, one plumber, one HVAC Technician, two Facility Maintenance Specialist-Advanced, One Facility Repairer Worker-Advanced, one Facility Maintenance Specialist, two Facility Officers and one Tool Room Sergeant regularly assigned to Maintenance posts. The Maintenance Department also employs up to 103 PIOC workers.

PIOC workers are experienced in the following trades: Welding, Machinist, Artist, Painter, Electronics Worker, Master Electrician, Carpentry, Landscaping, Plumbing, Refrigeration, Masonry and Parts Attendant.



HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Department consists of one Human Resources Director, one Human Resources Assistant and one Payroll and Benefits Specialist. Department responsibilities include: direction, administration and monitoring of the recruitment and selection of staff; employee and labor relations; payroll and benefits; policy administration; investigations/discipline; health and safety management; employee training/development; records maintenance; and Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity compliance. There are currently 297 allocated staff positions.

INMATE COMPLAINTS

The Inmate Complaint Review System (ICRS) ensures PIOC a process by which grievances may be addressed. The Institution Complaint Examiner (ICE), under the supervision of the Warden, investigates concerns regarding rules, living conditions and staff actions affecting institution environment. This process allows staff and PIOC the opportunity to understand correctional policies and to correct or address any deficiencies identified.

The following statistics reflect the types of complaints accepted and their resolution.

Complaints Processed by Subject	# of Complaints	Complaints Processed by Subject	# of Complaints
01 Staff	43	14 Classification	0
02 Correspondence & Publications	59	15 ICRS	4
03 Discipline	48	16 Discrimination	0
04 Medical	69	17 PIOC Accounts	46
05 Parole	0	18 BCE	0
06 Personal Physical Conditions	27	19 HIPAA	3
07 Personal Property	100	20 Staff Sexual Misconduct	3
08 Rules	19	21 PIOC Sexual Misconduct	1
09 Religion	1	22 Dental	4
10 Work & School Programs	16	24 Staff Misconduct	0
11 Visiting	7	25 Psychology	1
12 Other	40	26 Psychiatry	2
13 Food	13	Total	506

Method of Disposition	Number
Affirmed	65
Dismissed	356
Rejected	84

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES UNIT (PSU)

NLCI’s psychological staff is responsible for the mental health of PIOC. This primarily involves providing individual and group therapy. Each housing unit has a psychological services staff member on the unit who provides therapeutic services. In addition, optional group treatments are provided including but not limited to Dialectical Behavior Therapy, positive psychology, book clubs, journal challenges, Pet Therapy, and Forgiveness Groups. Additional services include: diagnoses and management of mentally-ill PIOC; psychological evaluation; 24-hour on-call availability; assistance with daily living skills; suicide potential and watch; medical collaboration; assessments of mental health, violence and safety; crisis management and intervention; staff suicide prevention training; direction of the Multidisciplinary Team; and weekly orientation. Another central focus is on administrative and documentation requirements, such as



completion of various evaluations for minimum placement potential, input for security decisions, and PIOC visitor reviews. PSU facilitates referral services to DOC-wide treatment programs including WRC, WSPF, MICA, and others.

NLCI currently has 302 PIOC with diagnosed mental health concerns. Of those, 46 have serious mental illness. PSU provides mental health services and monitoring to these PIOC as well as services to PIOC with situational stressors or grief reactions on an ongoing basis. In Restrictive Housing rounds are completed weekly with seriously mentally ill PIOC; they are provided reading materials, independent work assignments, and individual counseling as needed.

The Special Handling Unit (SHU), currently houses 50 PIOC, and is designed to assist those with mental illness or vulnerabilities to better adapt to the prison environment. The SHU includes a focus on socialization and building of support networks within the institution. Working with unit staff, recreation staff, and others throughout the institution, the PIOC on the Special Handling Unit have access to numerous groups including, arts and crafts, current events, social skills, mindful/meditation, games, and a primary processing group. The psychologist works closely with unit staff in monitoring and encouraging SHU members to develop skills and coping mechanisms to improve functioning in the unit living environment.

Psychiatric services are available to PIOC with diagnosed mental illness. PSU staff work closely with the psychiatrist to monitor those receiving psychotropic medications. A Multidisciplinary Team meeting is held weekly to collaboratively discuss PIOC with mental health, medical, and behavioral concerns.

RECORDS

	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
Scheduled Court Pick-ups	401	375	306	239	79
Releases from NLCI	203	204	193	191	183
Transfer IN to NLCI	530	416	489	404	350
Transfer OUT of NLCI	324	261	287	267	234

The Records Office maintains the PIOC legal and social service files. The office also does sentence computations and service of court-issued documents.

SECURITY

The Security Department consists of: 1 Security Director, 7 Captains, and 6 Lieutenants; 46 Sergeants, 147 Officers and 1 Security Program Assistant – Confidential. All department-required training was completed, ensuring Security staff remains current.

Restrictive Housing Unit - The Disciplinary Separation sanctions continued to be lower and monitored to ensure flexibility of bed space for COVID-19 positive persons for isolation purposes.

Incident Reports – A total of 1,589 Incident Reports were written in FY2021. This is a decrease of 57 reports from FY2020.

Conduct Reports – There were 297 Uncontested Major Conduct Reports. There were 133 Contested Major Conduct Reports. Of those, 0 were dismissed. There were 536 Contested Minor Conduct Reports. Of those 3 were dismissed and 52 were reprimands. There were 750 Uncontested Minor Conduct Reports. Of those, zero were dismissed, and 33 were reprimands.