

Montana Department of Corrections Agency Overview

Cynthia Wolken, Deputy Director
Jan. 22, 2021



The background of the slide is a faded, grayscale image of the Montana State Capitol building, showing its iconic dome and classical architectural details like columns and windows.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Mission

The DOC enhances public safety; supports the victims of crime; promotes positive change in offender behavior; and reintegrates offenders into the community.

Vision

To promote and contribute to the success of individuals engaged in the criminal justice system while providing safety and security for victims and Montana communities.

GOALS

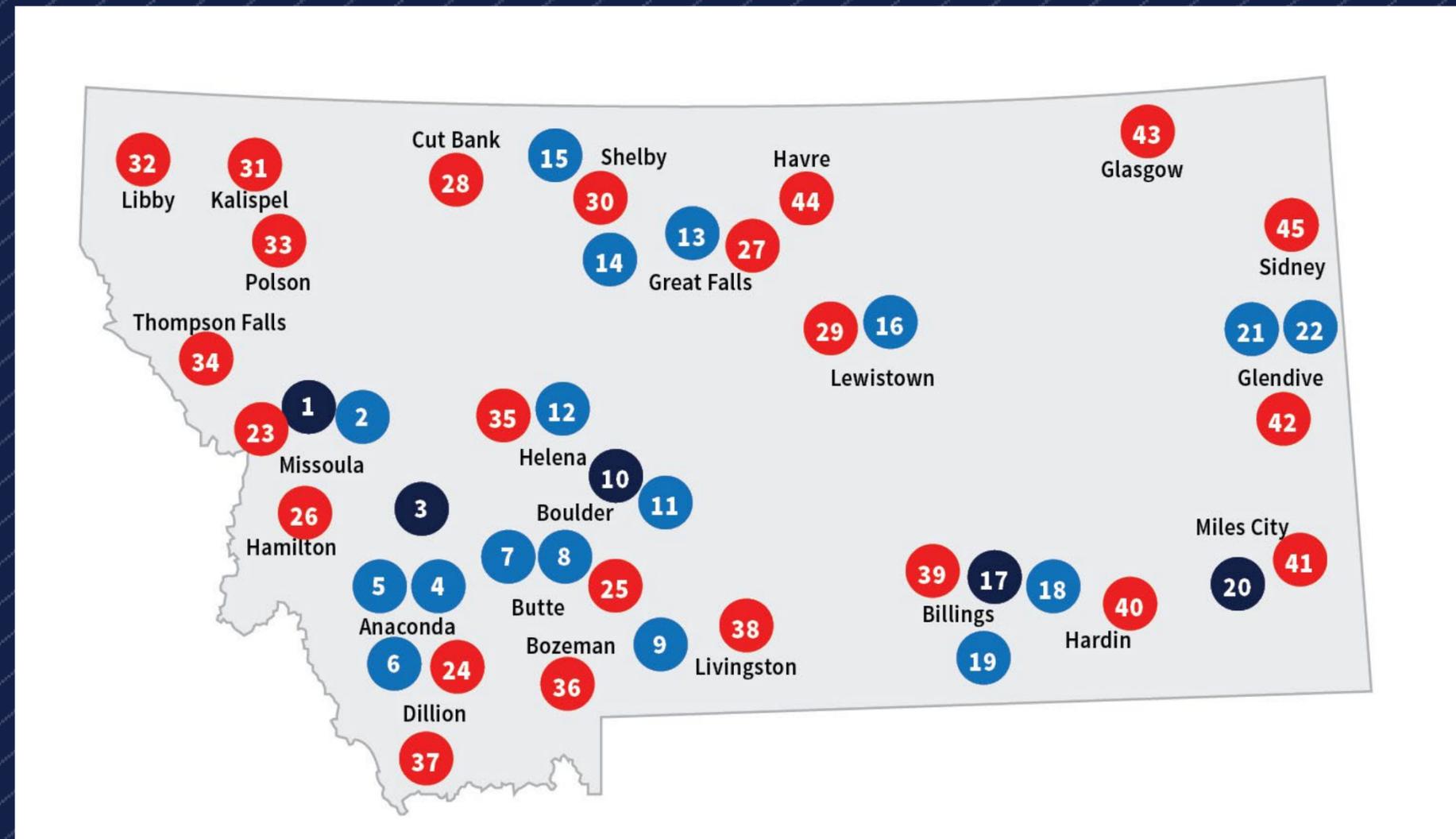
- Increase safety of communities, staff and offenders
- Empower, inform and support victims of crime
- Increase offender success and reduce recidivism
- Effectively collaborate with criminal justice partners
- Implement an integrated healthcare model at all secure facilities
- Advise and educate the public
- Invest in our staff for their professional development, growth and success



Montana Department of Corrections



OFFICES & FACILITIES



State - owned Facility	Contracted Facility	Probation & Parole Offices
1 Missoula Assessment & Sanction Center (MASC)	13 Great Falls Prerelease Center	23 Missoula P&P Office
2 Missoula Prerelease Center	14 Great Falls Regional Prison	24 Anaconda P&P Office
3 Montana State Prison	15 Crossroads Correctional Center	25 Butte P&P Office
4 WATCH West - Warm Springs	16 Nexus Meth Treatment	26 Hamilton P&P Office
5 Connections Corrections Program (CCP West)	17 Montana Women's Prison	27 Great Falls P&P Office
6 Sanction, Treatment, Assessment & Revocation Center (Start)	18 Alpha House Prerelease Center	28 Cut Bank P&P Office
7 Butte Prerelease Center	19 Passages: Prerelease Center	29 Lewistown P&P Office
8 Connections Corrections Program (CCP East)	Assessment, Sanction & Revocation Center	30 Shelby P&P Office
9 Bozeman Prerelease Center	Alcohol & Drug Treatment (ADT)	31 Kalispel P&P Office
10 Riverside Special Needs Unit	20 Pine Hills Correctional Facility - Youth	32 Libby P&P Office
11 Elkhorn Meth Treatment	Pine Hills Correctional Facility - Adult	33 Polson P&P Office
12 Helena Prerelease Center	21 Glendive Regional Prison	34 Thompson Falls P&P Office
	22 WATCH East - Glendive	35 Helena P&P Office
		36 Bozeman P&P Office
		37 Dillion P&P Office
		38 Livingston P&P Office
		39 Billings P&P Office
		40 Hardin P&P Office
		41 Miles City P&P Office
		42 Glendive P&P Office
		43 Glasgow P&P Office
		44 Havre P&P Office
		45 Sidney P&P Office



BY THE NUMBERS

The incarceration rate per 100,000 people in Montana was 450 in FY18 compared with the national average of 473.

About 75 percent of Montana offenders are supervised in the community by probation officers or at community facilities including assessment, treatment and prerelease centers.

The average age of adult offenders supervised by the DOC is 39.8 years.

The DOC's offender population is 79 percent white, 18 percent Native American or Alaskan Native, 2 percent Black, and 1 percent Asian or Pacific Islander.

The average daily population of juvenile males in custody of the DOC in FY20 was 22, with an average daily juvenile female population of 9.

The top five counties by number of convictions in FY2020 were Yellowstone, Cascade, Missoula, Lewis and Clark, and Gallatin.

The top offense for males and females in FY2020 was criminal possession of dangerous drugs, followed by criminal endangerment and theft.

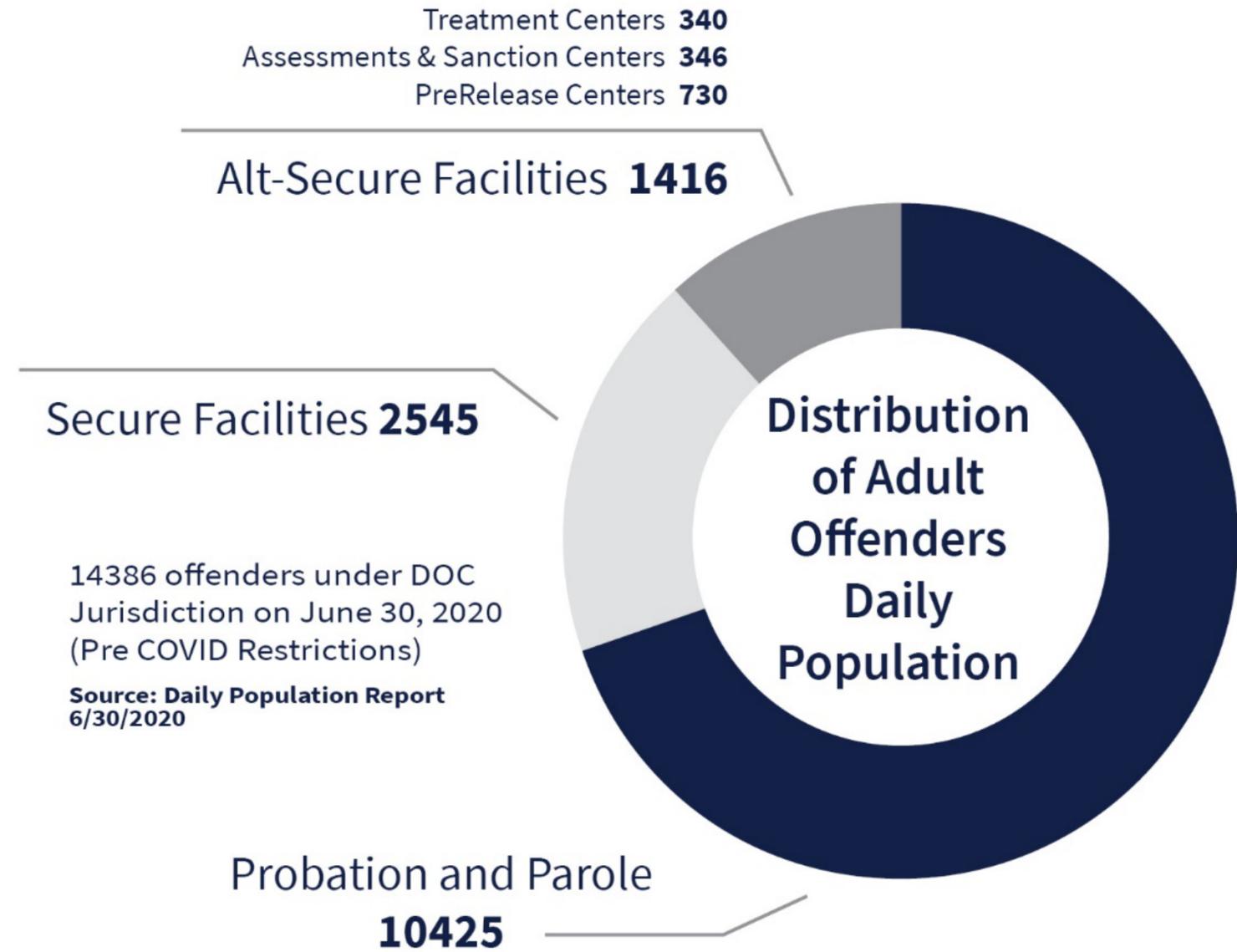
The average cost/day to house a male offender at Montana State Prison is \$114.53. Regular community supervision of an offender costs about \$6.41 a day.

2020 TOP MALE, FEMALE OFFENSES

	Males	Total
1	Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs	826
2	Criminal Endangerment	384
3	Theft	293
4	Driving Under Influence of Alcohol or Drugs -- Penalty for Fourth or Subsequent Offense	250
5	Burglary	177
6	Assault With a Weapon	118
7	Strangulation of a Partner or Family Member	100
8	Partner/Family Member Assault	86
9	Criminal Possession with Intent to Distribute	74
10	Failure to Register as Sex or Violent Offender	73

	Females	Total
1	Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs	453
2	Theft	86
3	Criminal Endangerment	85
4	Driving Under Influence of Alcohol or Drugs -- Penalty for Fourth or Subsequent Offense	45
5	Criminal Child Endangerment	36
6	Criminal Possession with Intent to Distribute	32
7	Burglary	29
8	Criminal Distribution of Dangerous Drugs	25
9	Forgery	21
10	Bail Jumping	20

DISTRIBUTION OF ADULT OFFENDERS

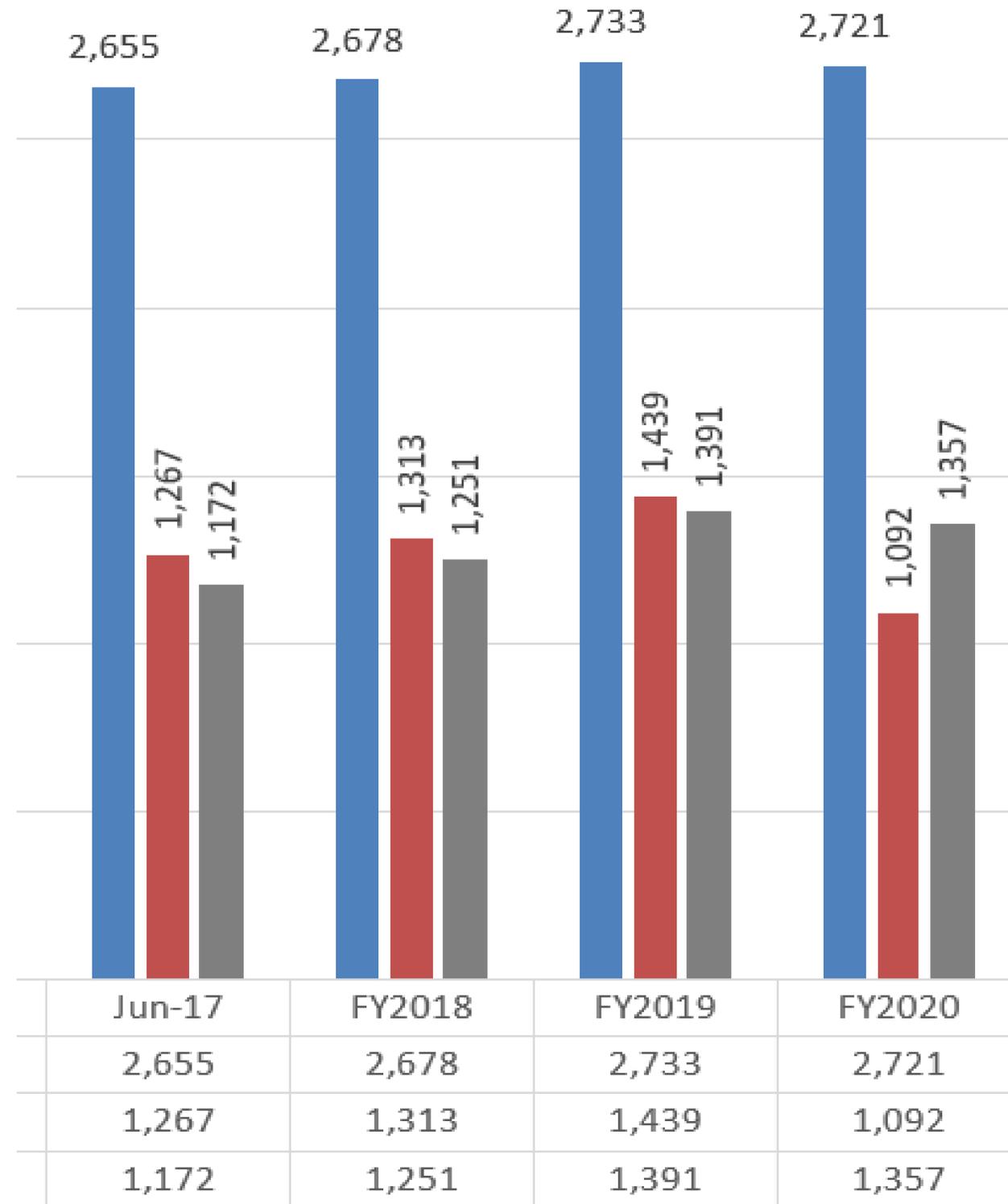


The majority of adult offenders in Montana are under the supervision of Probation and Parole in Montana communities, or at assessment, treatment or prerelease centers.



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PRISON POPULATION TRENDS

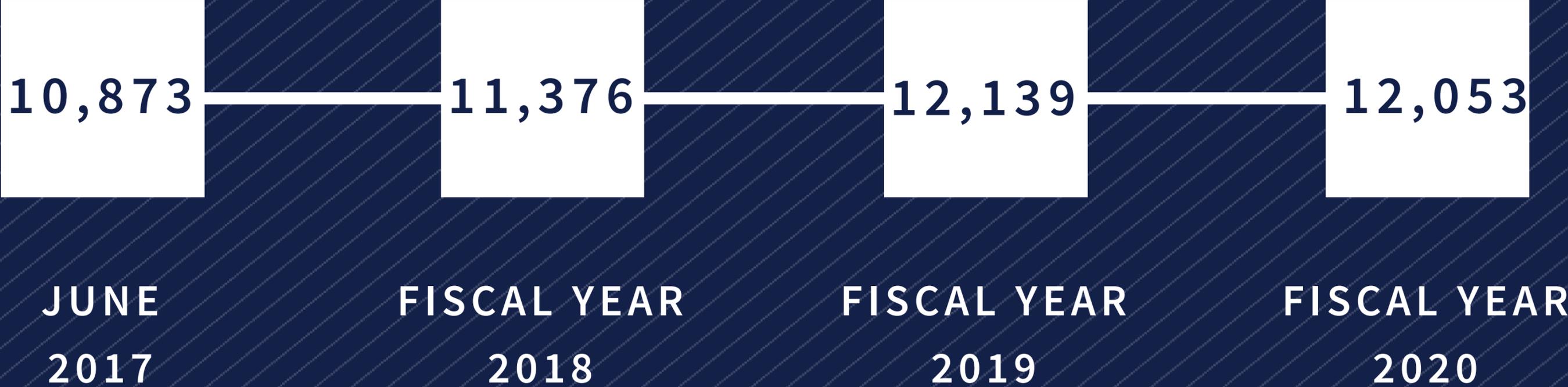


■ Prison Snapshot Total

■ Prison Admissions Total

■ Prison Releases Total

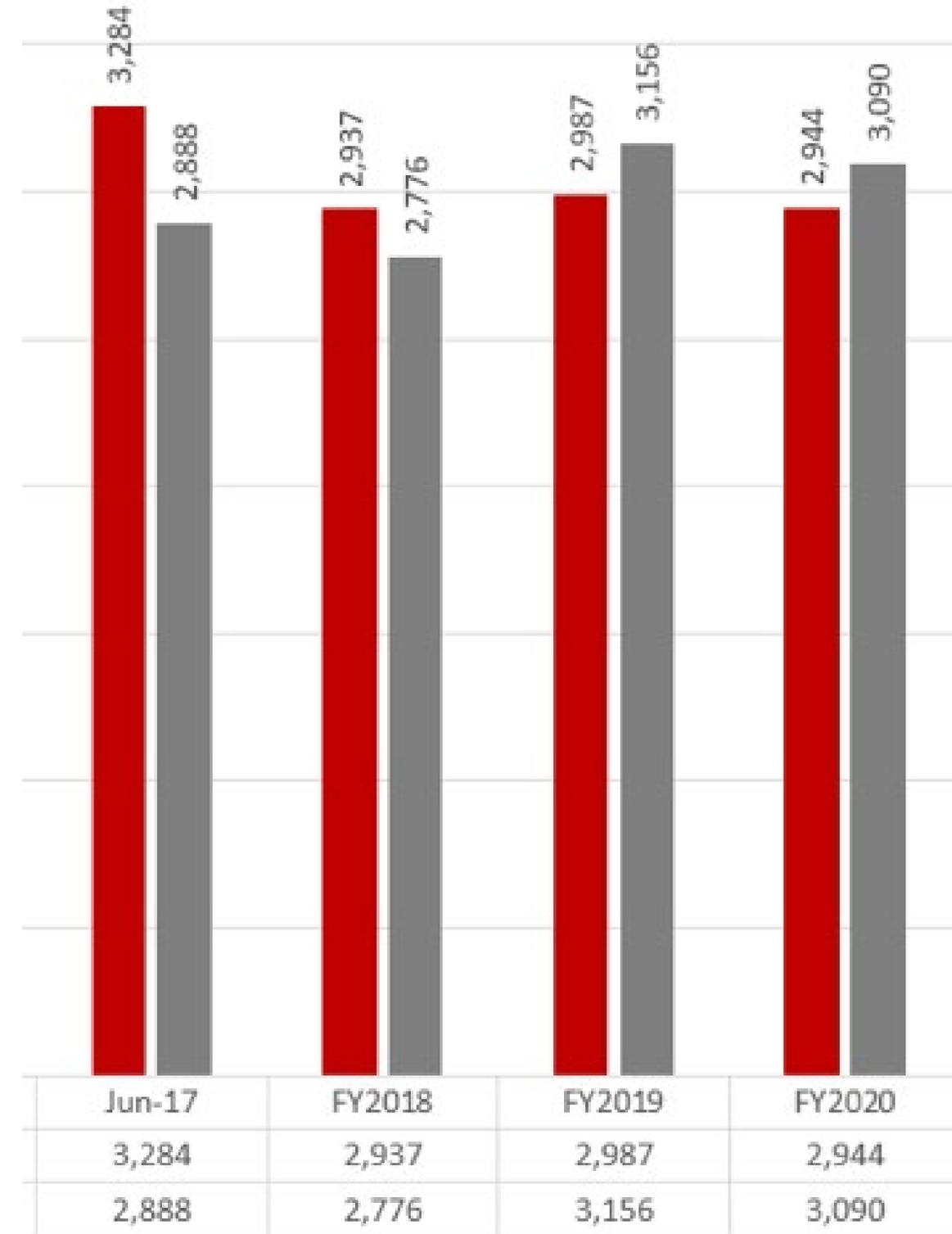
Community Supervision Trends





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PROBATION ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES TRENDS



■ Probation Admissions Total

■ Probation Releases Total

Navigating Corrections During a Pandemic

- The DOC took swift action, with guidance from the department's Clinical Services Division, the CDC, DPHHS and local health departments, to keep staff and offenders safe.
 - Education of staff and offenders.
 - Suspension of in-person visitation.
 - Daily screening and temperature checks of staff.
 - Restriction of offender movement to minimize chances of introducing the virus to facilities.
 - Symptomatic and sentinel testing to identify any virus activity.

Our response in Montana is a model for other correctional facilities throughout the country!

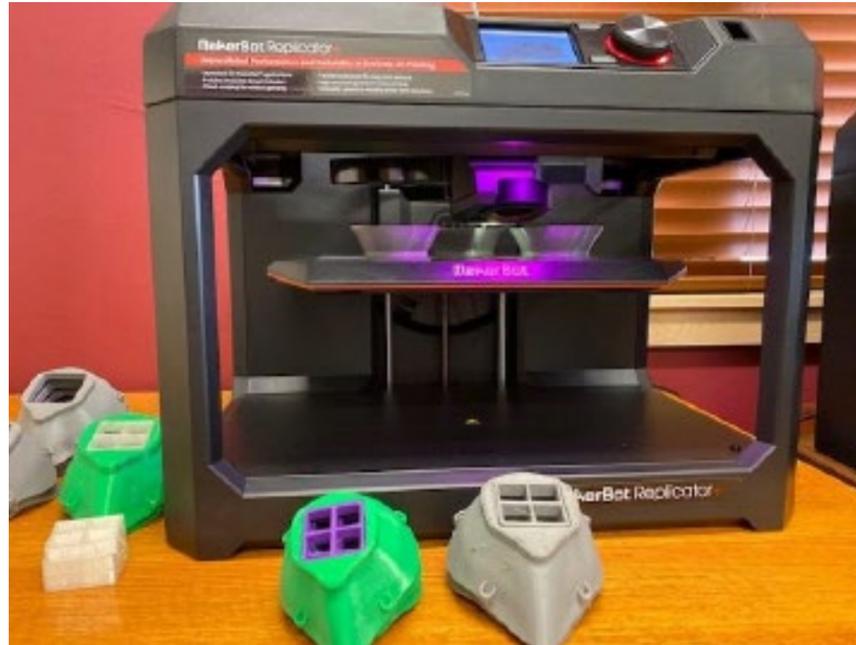


COVID TIMELINE

- March 2, 2020**
COVID-19 education of staff, inmates begins
- March 10, 2020**
Screening of arriving inmates begins, quarantine of out-of-state arrivals
- March 13, 2020**
In-person visitation suspended
- March 19, 2020**
Daily staff screening at DOC facilities begins
- April 1, 2020**
Governor suspends inmate movement, provides parameters for BOPP early release
- April 2020**
MCE begins manufacturing PPE
- April 22, 2020**
Governor reopens state - Phase 2
- April 22, 2020**
MBCC begins taking applications for Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding
- May 2020**
DOC begins sentinel testing of staff and inmates
- June 9, 2020**
MWP inmate tests positive for COVID-19
- June 2020**
DOC receives CARES Act funding to assist with cost of managing COVID-19
- October 15, 2020**
MSP inmate tests positive for COVID-19
- October 24, 2020**
MSP sees first COVID-19-related inmate death
- October 26, 2020**
Montana Army National Guard begins deployment at MSP
- November 18, 2020**
Montana Army National Guard concludes deployment at MSP



Montana Correctional Enterprises: PPE Production



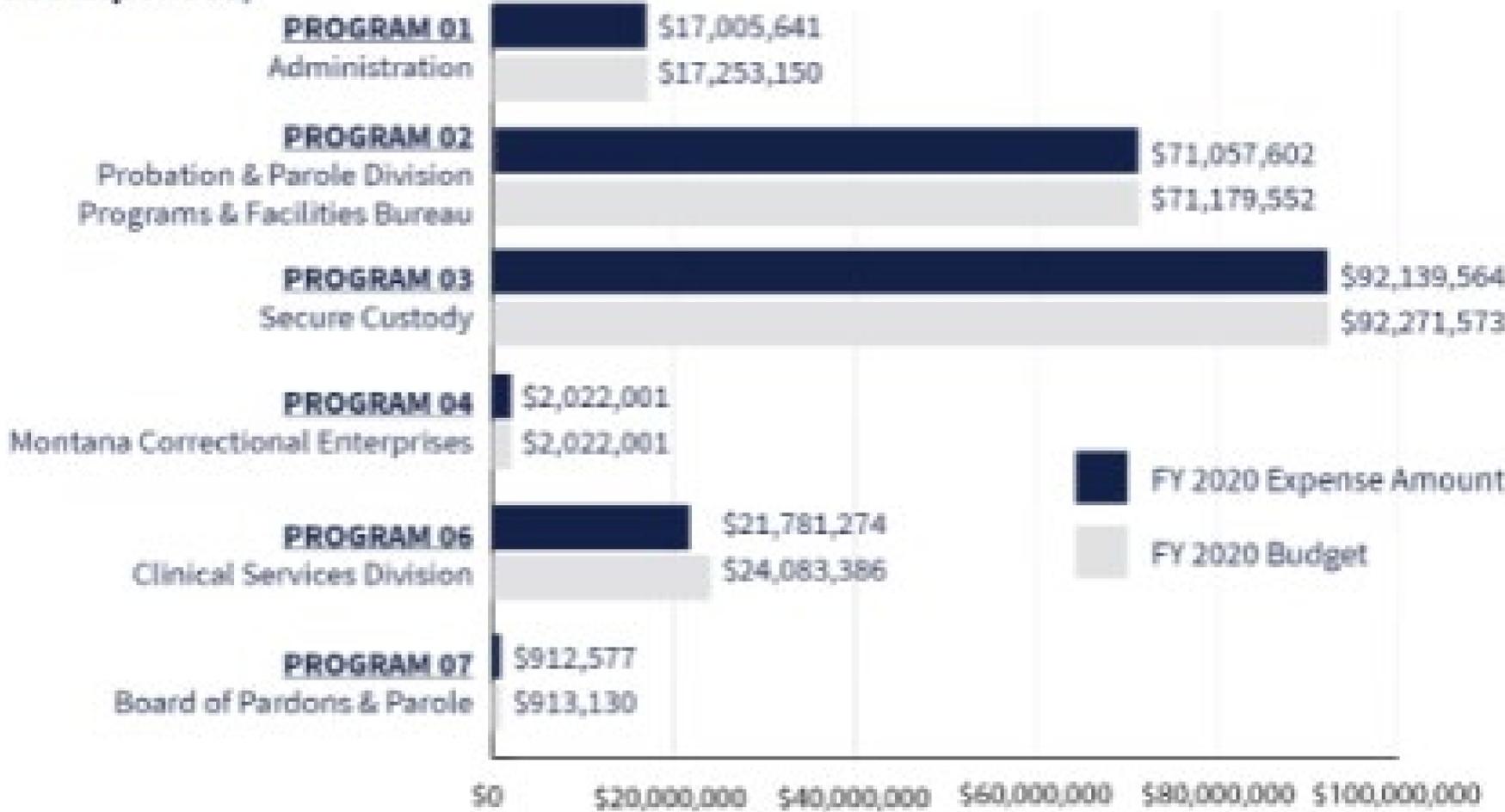
COVID-19 PPE PRODUCED

Production through FY20

PPE PRODUCT	# of items
<i>Disposable Shoe Covers</i>	<i>1,450</i>
<i>Disposable Head Covers</i>	<i>1,675</i>
<i>Disposable Gowns</i>	<i>1,950</i>
<i>Face Shields</i>	<i>1,800</i>
<i>Inmate Sneeze Guards</i>	<i>9,331</i>
<i>Staff Sneeze Guards</i>	<i>4,700</i>
<i>N95 Fabric Covers</i>	<i>500</i>
<i>3D Masks</i>	<i>950</i>
<i>Social Distancing Floor Decals</i>	<i>250</i>
<i>Social Distancing Signs</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Covid Plexi-Shields</i>	<i>150</i>
Total PPE for FY20	22,906



2020 Budget Distribution to Programs (Actual Expenses)

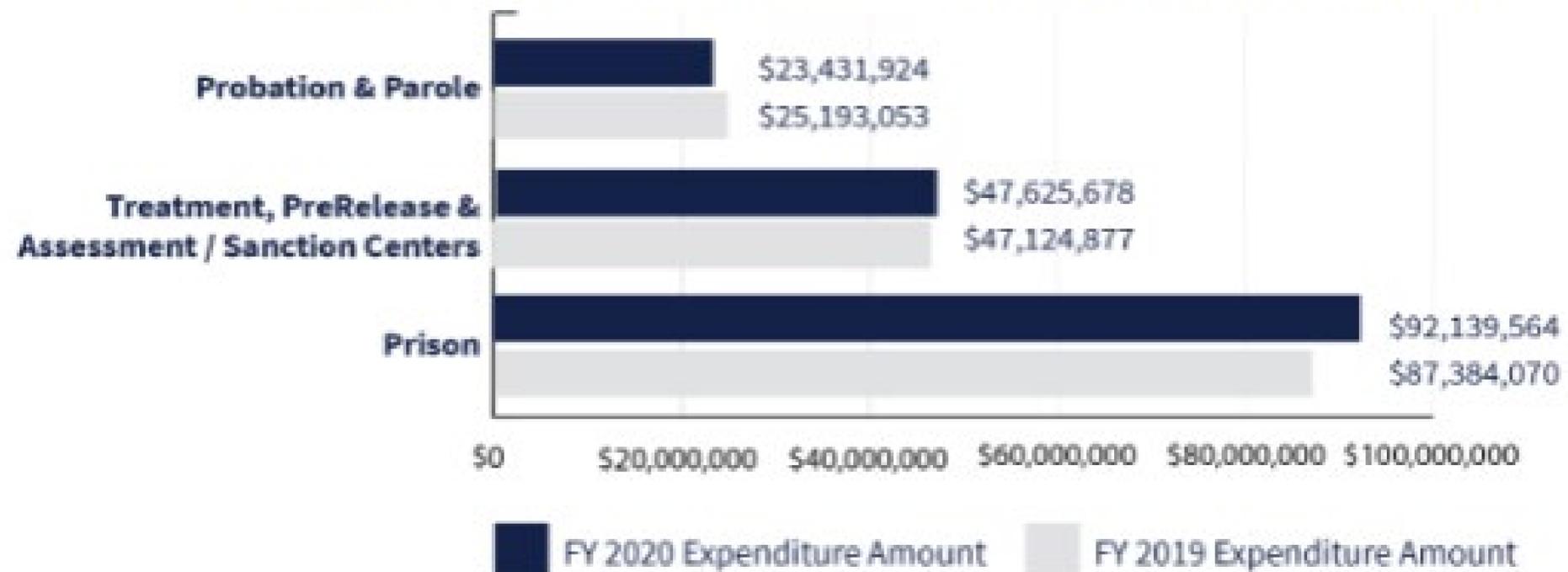


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BUDGET EXPENDITURES BY OFFENDER SUPERVISION PROGRAM



Budget Expenditures by Offender Supervision Program





ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





CYNTHIA WOLKEN
Deputy Director



AMERICAN INDIAN LIAISON



- Primary advisor to DOC staff, partnering agencies and community organizations on issues related to American Indians under the department's supervision.
- Visited several reservations this biennium including Northern Cheyenne, Fort Peck, Fort Belknap, Rocky Boy, Blackfeet and Flathead.
- Assists American Indian offenders with re-entry, connecting them with appropriate resources.

Communications

Responsible for telling the DOC's story to internal and external audiences.

Accomplishments:

- Department rebrand.
- Developed social media strategy, enhanced and expanded channels.
- Redesigning department website, cor.mt.gov (almost finished!).
- Established a centralized communications team to ensure consistent, coordinated messaging.

Find
an
Offender



Friends
&
Family



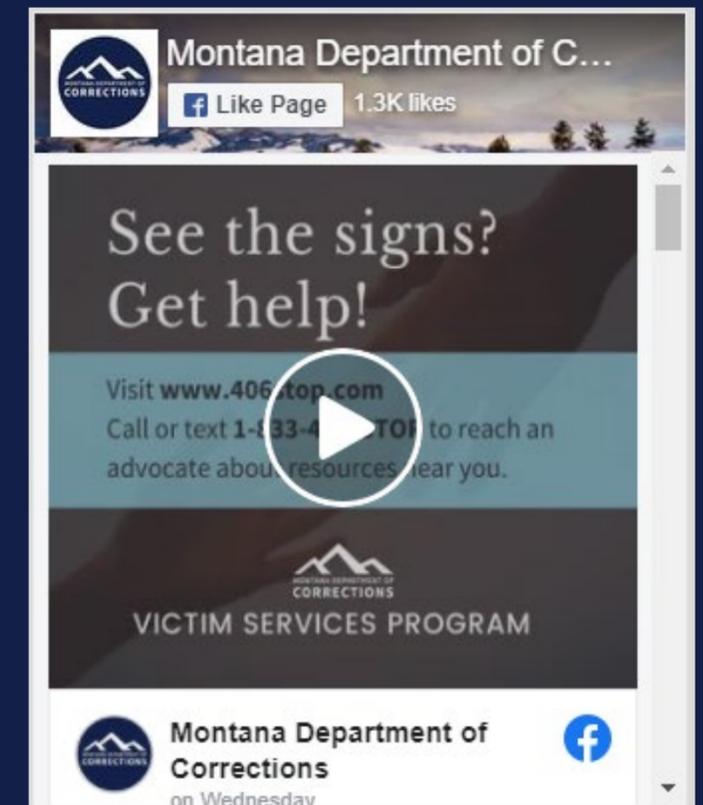
Victim
Services



Data,
Statistics
Contracts,
Policies,
&
Procedures



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- 11-person office responsible for criminal investigations occurring within department facilities and programs statewide, locating escapees or absconders and returning them to custody.
- Team includes six sworn criminal investigators (2-MSP, 2-Helena, 1-Shelby, 1-MWP/Pine Hills); three non-sworn to assist with criminal investigations, escapes from prerelease centers, PREA investigations; two analysts (provide info to Montana Analysis and Technical Information Center (MATIC) and conducted targeted listening of phone calls).
- Shares criminal intelligence information about escapees or absconders with regional fugitive task forces and other law enforcement agencies.
- Maintains and shares criminal intelligence information about offenders under DOC supervision with the National Infrastructure Advisory Council on Intelligence Information Sharing.

INVESTIGATIONS



LEGAL SERVICES

Aside from litigation, the main task for department attorneys is day-to-day bureau assistance, including

- Requests for legal advice (the largest single source)
- Contract review
- Policy review
- Assistance with HR/personnel matters.
- Legislation review/drafting
- Grievance response review
- Public Records Requests
- Training
- Habeas responses
- Administrative Rules
- Participation on multi-disciplinary teams
- Responses to outside parties (ACLU, DRM, Other Governmental Agencies)
 - 9.5 FTEs (7 attorneys, 2.5 support)

QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICE

- Designs and implements quality assurance programs and integrates services, policies and initiatives with all department-operated and contracted facilities and programs to promote successful, consistent and quality practices.
- Responsible for: department-wide internal controls, contract compliance, auditing and licensing adult and juvenile correctional facilities, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) management and compliance, ensuring programs offered are evidence –based, policy and procedural management, safety and risk management.
- Accomplishments: Implemented procedures and QA/fidelity processes. Measured programs using the correctional practices checklist (CPC).

DOC FOCUS

- Continue making progress on justice reinvestment goals: The DOC is working hard to ensure the highest quality possible programming. To support that goal, the department is requesting \$75,000/year for staff training to continue measuring programming success.
- Continue improvements to restrictive housing at the DOC's secure facilities by better identifying and addressing the needs of the department's seriously mentally ill inmates.
- Continue the DOC's commitment to living within its budget by being resourceful and effectively using and adapting existing resources.

Victim Services

Is the contact point for victims of felony crime and their families. (Their offenders are under the supervision of the DOC.)

Accomplishments

- Established a dedicated, 6-member team to ensure victims' needs are met.
- Improved victim notification process by increasing automated notifications to ensure timeliness.
- Delivered a public awareness campaign to inform Montanans about available services.
- Implemented weekly educational sessions for service providers throughout the state.
- Developed a long-term strategic plan.



QUESTIONS?



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