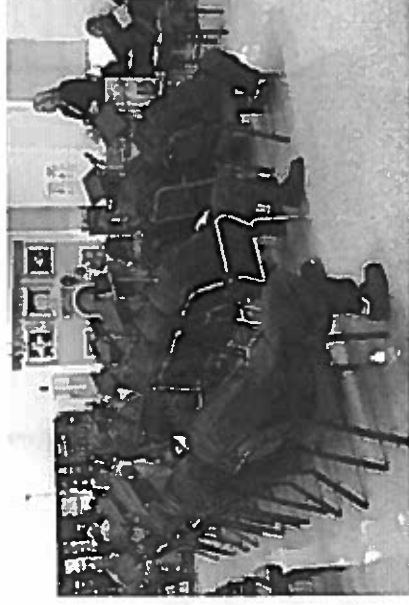


# A Focus on Success



## The Michigan Department of Corrections



Kyle Kaminski, Offender Success  
Administrator/Legislative Liaison



# What is Offender Success?

Punishment vs. Incapacitation vs. Rehabilitation?

The MDOC's answer: A joint focus on near-term public safety from our operations and long-term public safety from achieving Offender Success.

Offender Success, which was developed by the MDOC, was formally adopted as the MDOC's model in 2015. The foundation of this model is to provide offenders with programming, education, and opportunities to become self-sufficient, positive members of their respective communities as a means of reducing crime and producing public safety.

# Understanding the MDOC

- The MDOC is more than just prisons.
  - Probation (43,000), Prison (38,693), and Parole (13,000)
- 30 Correctional Facilities, 105 Field Offices, nearly 14,000 employees.
- 75% of the MDOC's costs are related to staff, as we are one of the few 24-7-365 Department's in the state.
- Roughly 1/2 of MDOC employees are not engaged in direct custody functions.
  - Educators, Healthcare Providers, Mental Health Providers, Field Agents, Offender Success Staff, Accountants, Food Service, etc.
- The MDOC represents 20% of Michigan's General Fund budget and about 3.6% of Michigan's total budget.
- The Department impacts every community within the state.

# The Role of the MDOC Within the Criminal Justice System

## MDOC Directly Controls

- Prisoner Programming Opportunities based on funding from the Legislature
- Placement/Classification of Prisoners within the MDOC
- When a Prisoner will Parole after Minimum Sentence Completed
- If a Parolee will Return to Prison for a Technical Violation of Parole
- If an Offender will Discharge Prior to Their Maximum Sentence

## MDOC Does Not Control

- What Constitutes a Criminal Violation of the Law
- Who is Sentenced to Prison
- How Many People are Sentenced to Prison
- The Prisoner's Minimum and Maximum Sentence
- If a Parolee will Return to Prison for a New Offense While on Parole

# The Role of the MDOC Within the Criminal Justice System

(Continued)

The MDOC Can Influence the Following:

- The Availability of Diversion Programs (Community Corrections)
- The Sentencing Recommendation of the MDOC (Straddle Cells)
- The Recommendations for Probation Violation Sanctions
- The Supports Available to Parolees
- Legislative Reforms that Impact the Prison, Probation, and Parole Populations

# Who Goes to Prison?

- Roughly 20% of felony dispositions result in a prison sentence
- Offense Types at Intake: Assaultive – 43%, Non-Assaultive (excluding drugs) – 42%, Drug Offenses – 15%
- Race: White – 53%, Non-White – 47%
- Age: 19 and under – 5.4%, 20-29 – 37%, 30-39 – 29%, 40 and over – 28.3%.

# What Happens While In Prison?

- A lot...
- Healthcare
- Mental Health
- Cognitive Programming
- Education
- Volunteer Programs
- Work
- Leisure Time
- Count
- Preparing for Reentry



# What is the Purpose of Prisoner Programming?

- The goal of the criminal justice system is to hold individuals accountable while making the community safe.
- Incarceration has a near-term “incapacitation” impact, but there is no literature that shows that simply being incarcerated reduces the likelihood of future offenses when someone returns to the community.
- The focus must be on helping individuals understand their thoughts, feelings, and actions so that better, safer decisions can occur in the future.

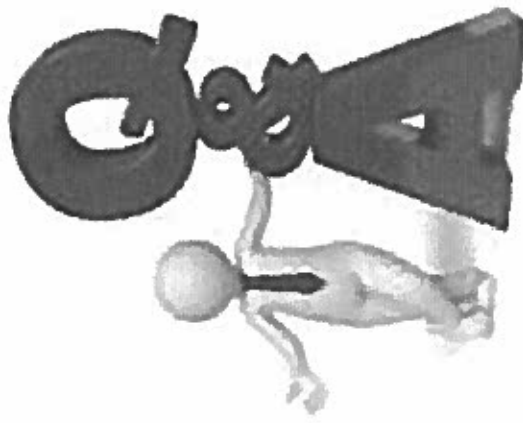
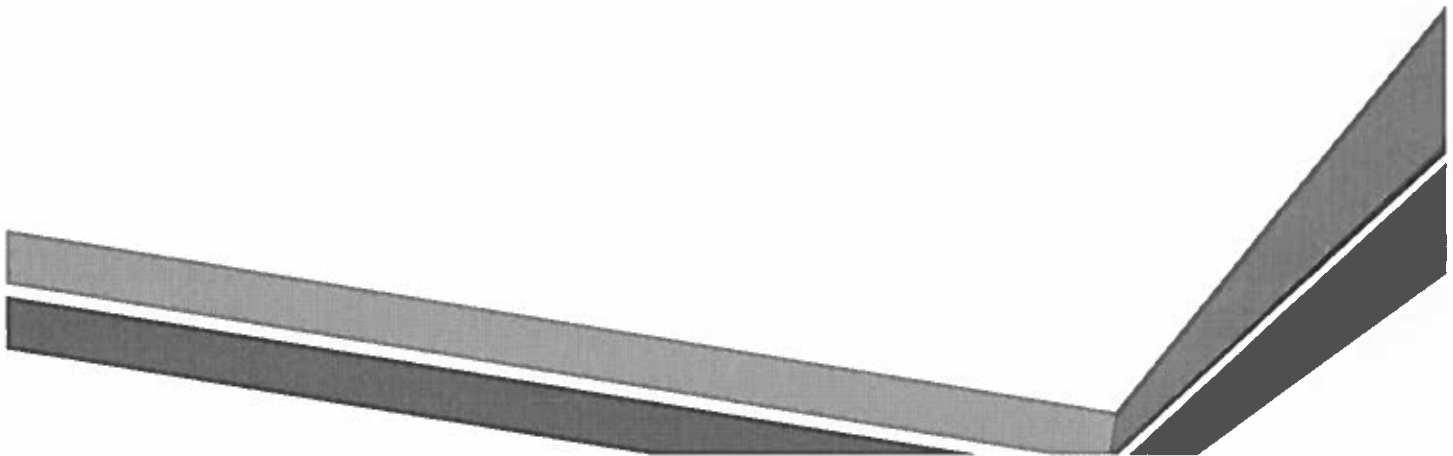


# Key Statistics

- The prison population is currently 38,761, similar to levels in the mid 1990's. The all-time high was 51,554 in 2007.
- Total Commitments to prison in 2018 totaled 7,593, the lowest level in the past 20 years.
- The parole approval rate for 2018 was 71.5%, amongst the highest rates in the states history.
- Michigan's recidivism rate is currently 28.1%, the lowest in the state's history.
- Parole Violators sentenced to prison for new offenses totaled 989 in 2018, the lowest level since 1995.
- The average minimum sentence is now 54.1 months, up by over a year since 2004 (41.9 months).

# What is the Future of Corrections?

- The advancement of criminal justice policy is often more of a pendulum than a straight line. We are in a period of significant positive reforms.
- Stakeholders in Michigan have still not fully grappled with the policies that resulted in the significant increase in the prison population.
- While the prison population is declining, the specialized populations within the MDOC (elderly, mentally ill, substance use disorder, etc.) appear to be increasing.
- The MDOC projects a continued decline in the prison population, but that we will approach the natural “floor” for prisoners over the next five years absent changes to the law or the creation of new initiatives.



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