

Ohio

Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction



enrichment career enhancement technology
apprenticeship results books
academic community service reentry
students 2015 education teachers
principals career-technical
community service guidance counselors
library services career development

John R. Kasich, Governor

Gary C. Mohr, Director

Denise L. Justice, Superintendent



Education

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Our Vision, Mission, and Philosophy

Our Vision

It is the vision of the Ohio Central School System that all inmates of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction will be provided the necessary academic, job training, and social/emotional skills required for successful reentry to society as effective, participating, and productive citizens.

Our Mission

The Ohio Department of Education under Revised Code 3313.61 formally chartered the Ohio Central School System in April 1973. This charter provides the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction with quality programming and the Ohio Central School System the authority to seek additional federal funding. The Chartered School District enables the department to provide a comprehensive, thorough education program that addresses the needs of the vastly under-educated and under-skilled inmates. These services include: Adult Basic Literacy Education, GED® (High School Equivalency), Adult High School, Apprenticeship Training, Library Services, Release Preparation, Special Education, Career-Technical Education, Transitional Education Program (TEP), Youth Transition Program (YTP), Education Intensive Program Prison (EIPP), and other educational programs as directed by the needs of the inmate population.

Our Philosophy

The Ohio Central School System subscribes to the principles of American democracy, including a genuine belief in the paramount importance of the dignity and worth of all individuals. The basic purpose of American education is to perpetuate and improve this democratic society in which it exists. In keeping with the above precepts, correctional education maintains the mission of providing for the fullest possible development of each participant's talents and potentialities, in order that they might participate more effectively in the cultural, political, social, and economic life of this society.

The Ohio Central School System acknowledges that each student is different in terms of his/her education needs and desires and should be dealt with on the basis of these individual differences. Programs, therefore, will be designed to serve this multiplicity of differences. It is believed that participation in meaningful educational programs will elicit both behavioral and attitudinal change. While such participation is, in part, voluntary, individuals are counseled and encouraged to participate in those education endeavors that will most effectively aid them in strengthening self-image, creating positive attitude, and developing or increasing the quantity and quality of coping skills needed to successfully re-enter today's highly complex, and technical society.

Assessment of the quality and relevance of educational content and practice shall be continuous. Every effort must be concerted to discover the most successful instructional methods and student's individual needs.

The Ohio Central School System adheres to the statement: "Equal Educational Opportunities are offered without regard to Race, Color, National Origin, Sex or Disability."

A Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Staff, Students, Parents, and Community Stakeholders:

It was another productive year for the Ohio Central School System (OCSS) as once again administrators and staff placed academic achievement at the forefront helping reduce recidivism for Ohio. As Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) Superintendent, I attend graduation ceremonies throughout the year, and while on site I see firsthand the dedicated teachers, hard-working students, caring parent representatives, and a very supportive correctional education community. I am also proud of the fact that in Fiscal Year 2015, OCSS certified over 13,900 completers while continuing to expand educational services for ODRC.

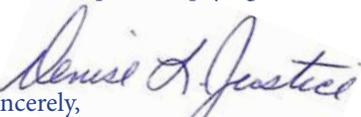
The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) recognized OCSS as a school system in 1973. OCSS continues to oversee educational programming for ODRC, the Community Based Correctional Facilities (CBCF), and the Hamilton County Jail. Since 2012, OCSS facilitates the Certificates of Achievement and Employability (CAE) process for the State of Ohio. In addition, OCSS continues to take a multi-agency partnerships approach to embrace ODRC initiatives offering online resources to the population we serve. Two examples include working with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) to incorporate the Offender Network for Employment to STOP Recidivism (O.N.E.-STOP) shops in the institution reintegration centers, as well as working with organizations such as the Training Assessment Placement Project to prepare offenders for release and entering the Ohio workforce.

To demonstrate OCSS is more engaged than ever before, I am pleased to report our most important outcomes:

- * Computerizing the attendance process and recording student successes on completer reports for ODRC
- * Piloting educational materials and new technologies to expand educational programming
- * Increasing apprenticeship programs and expanding career enhancement courses
- * Offering the population online resources, job searches, and the ODJFS employment matching system
- * Incorporating tablet technology into the correctional education classroom and helping with the process to expand programming in restrictive housing

A unique blend of teaching experience and a strong track record of exceptional leadership has been cultivated over the past 42 years, but due to technology, I now see our teachers redefining the tools and approaches they use to connect with the 21st Century student. Our talented faculty can now use technology in the classroom offering the interactive BrightLink projectors and the internet to help students connect with lessons in inspiring, imaginative, and differentiated ways. The focus is a more student-centered approach that challenges students to be more directly involved and invested in the discovery of their own knowledge. In addition, tablet technology was recently approved to pilot in the ODRC classroom and contains more than 100 educational materials – eBooks, ePublications, and educational vignettes in the areas of Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE), GED®, English as a Second Language (ESL), financial literacy, computer literacy, and reentry. We are excited to use this new technology to expand educational programming for the Department while at the same time preparing offenders for release with the technological skills required to function in the 21st Century workforce.

Challenges will always exist but will not define why we exist. We are here to serve. We are committed to serving the community by educating the population to the standard of excellence that will empower them to be well-rounded lifelong learners, active contributors in the workplace, taxpaying citizens for the community, and overall, successful in life.


Sincerely,
Denise L. Justice, Superintendent



The Results... 13,903 students certified!

The Ohio Central School System's cumulative enrollment figures for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, totals 24,118 students.

An additional 11,231 students enrolled in spring quarter continued enrollment into FY2015.

A total of 35,349 participated in education programs.

OCSS is pleased to report that a total of 13,903 certificates were earned by OCSS students in FY2015.

The school system reported serving 25,862 children in the Reading Rooms located in ODRC visiting areas.

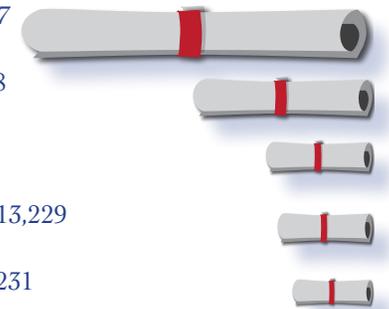
Inmate Population: 50,407

Students Enrolled: 24,118

Students Certified: 13,903

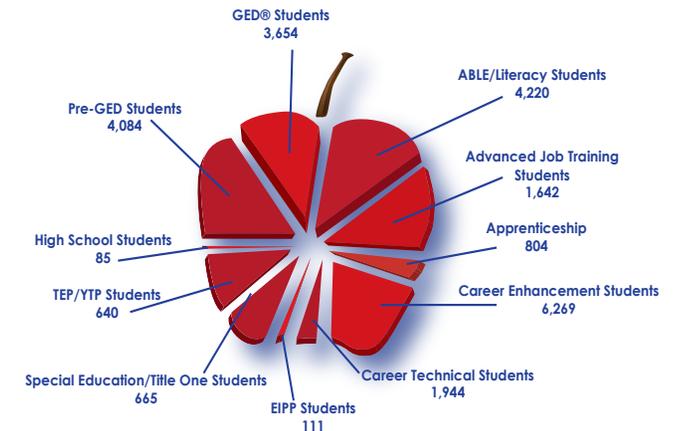
July 1, 2014 Enrollment: 13,229

Students Continuing: 11,231



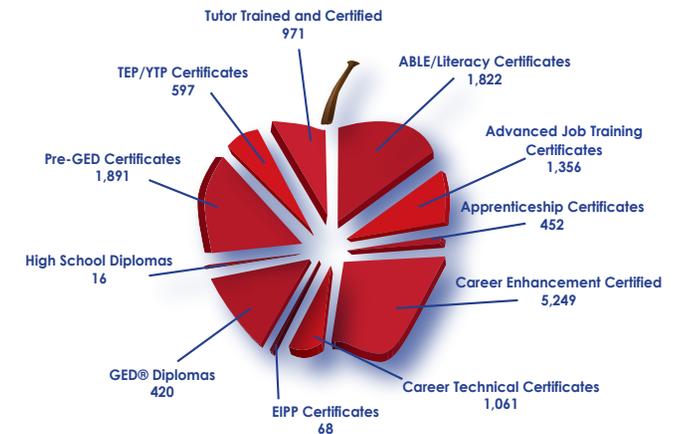
Students Served

ABLE/Literacy Students	4,220
Pre-GED Students	4,084
GED® Students	3,654
Advanced Job Training Students	1,642
Apprenticeship	804
Career Enhancement Students	6,269
Career-Technical Students	1,944
EIPP Students	111
High School Students	85
Special Education/Title One Students	665
TEP/YTP Students	640
Total	24,118



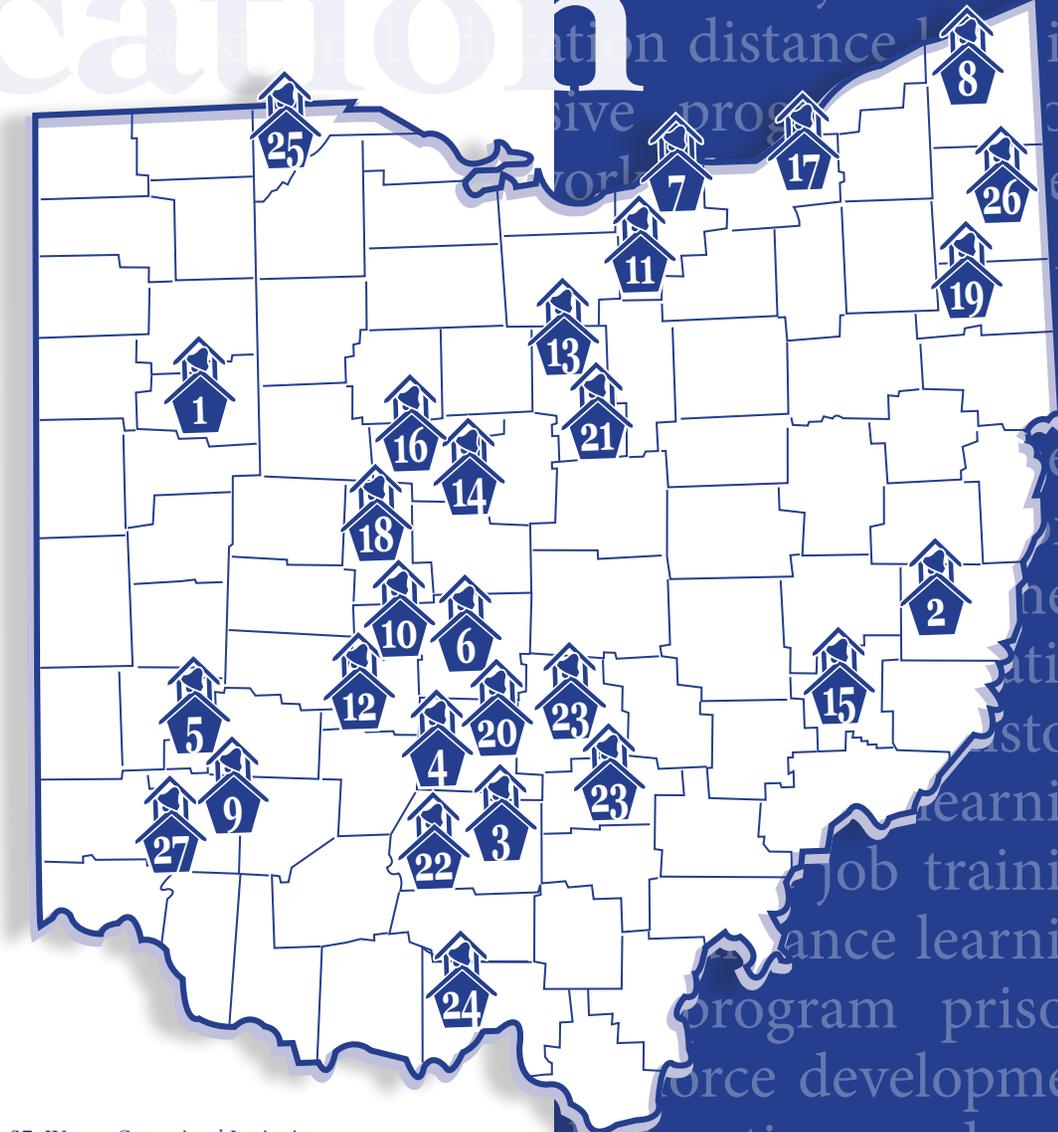
Students Certified

ABLE/Literacy Certificates	1,822
Pre-GED Certificates	1,891
GED® Diplomas	420
Advanced Job Training Certificates	1,356
Apprenticeship Certificates	452
Career Enhancement Certified	5,249
Career-Technical Certificates	1,061
EIPP Certificates	68
High School Diplomas	16
TEP/YTP Certificates	597
Tutor Trained and Certified	971
Total	13,903



Our Schools

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution (AOCI)
Fallen Timbers Branch - Allen
Lost Creek Branch - Oakwood | 14 Marion Correctional Institution (MCI)
Hope Memorial School |
| 2 Belmont Correctional Institution (BeCI)
Eastern Horizons Center | 15 Noble Correctional Institution (NCI)
Sequoyah School |
| 3 Chillicothe Correctional Institution (CCI)
Sherman School | 16 North Central Correctional Complex* (NCCC)
Harding Memorial Branch |
| 4 Correctional Reception Center (CRC)
Walker School | 17 Northeast Reintegration Center (NeRC)
Robert Merrill School |
| 5 Dayton Correctional Institution (DCI)
McLin School | 18 Ohio Reformatory for Women (ORW)
Clearview School |
| 6 Franklin Medical Center (FMC)
Endeavor Branch - Zone A
Sacajawea Center - Zone B | 19 Ohio State Penitentiary (OSP)
Steel Valley School |
| 7 Grafton Correctional Institution (GCI)
Sherwood Anderson School | 20 Pickaway Correctional Institution (PCI)
Shawnee Branch |
| 8 Lake Erie Correctional Institution* (LaECI)
Lighthouse Learning Center | 21 Richland Correctional Institution (RiCI)
Hope Valley School |
| 9 Lebanon Correctional Institution (LeCI)
Shaker Valley School | 22 Ross Correctional Institution (RCI)
Edward Tiffin School |
| 10 London Correctional Institution (LoCI)
Buckeye Branch | 23 Southeastern Correctional Complex (SCC)
Hilltop School - Hocking
Ridgeview School - Lancaster |
| 11 Lorain Correctional Institution (LorCI)
Black River Branch | 24 Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (SOCF)
Tecumseh Branch |
| 12 Madison Correctional Institution (MaCI)
Madison Branch | 25 Toledo Correctional Institution (ToCI)
Goose Hill Branch |
| 15 Mansfield Correctional Institution (ManCI)
Country Haven Center | 26 Trumbull Correctional Institution (TCI)
Western Reserve School |



27 Warren Correctional Institution (WCI)
Turtle Creek Branch

* Private Prison

Academic Programs

Academic Programming is expanding for the Ohio Central School System as technology makes its way into the field of Correctional Education. eField Trips are the latest collaboration between the Ohio History Connection and OCSS. The academic Computer Aided Instructional Laboratories (CAIL) offer CareerScope® assessments, practice test software, Khan Academy educational videos, reentry skill preparation, WinWay Resume Deluxe, and are all equipped as official GED® PearsonVUE test sites. The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and OCSS have a long history of providing educational opportunities to the Department's potential students, no matter their educational background. In an effort to increase inmate employment opportunities upon release, OCSS provides advanced employment skills to inmates that have a High School Diploma or GED® in the form of Advanced Job Training (AJT) classes through partners known as the Ohio Penal Education Consortium (OPEC). This consortium is made up of a combination of both state and privately funded colleges and universities: Ashland University (AU), Marion Technical College (MTC), Ohio University (OU), Sinclair Community College (SC), Urbana University (UU), and Youngstown State University (YSU).

Also, ODRC now has thirteen pilot institutions with Android tablet technology available to supplement classroom instruction. Pilot sites represent all regions, shared service areas, reintegration centers, and special populations that include diverse learning levels. The first new tool is the secure CEA-Union tablet known as the incarcerated Person Education Pad (iPEP) which contains over 100 educational eTextbooks, ePubs, Portable Document Formats (PDF), videos, and Microsoft Office PowerPoint presentations. Each iPEP contains digital resources for ABLE, computer basics, GED Essentials, reentry skills, differentiated instructions for Special Education, and ESL. According to Superintendent Denise L. Justice, "OCSS is leading the way in the utilization of technology in the field of Correctional Education. The iPEP offers the tools and applications necessary to improve the user's technological skills and the ability to utilize the tablet format for employment upon release." The latest research by the RAND Corporation indicates education increases the success rate of employment and shows a significant decrease in recidivism when educational programming is provided.

In addition, the Superintendent announced that OCSS in compliance with the ODRC Bureau of Information and Technology Services (BITS) has acquired Sony eReaders that are now being used at the Southeastern Correctional Complex (SCC) Ridgeview School library located in Lancaster, Ohio. The Sony eReaders do not have Wi-Fi capabilities but offer a large selection of books and PDF files that will help improve reading fluency, offer a new technology skill, and aid in reentry preparation.

Superintendent Justice stated, "Working with BITS made the iPEP and eReaders secure for inmate use. While supporting institutions such as SCC-L to pilot the process, we as a team are able to implement successful projects that reduce inmate idleness, decrease storage requirements and book costs for the institution, while at the same time encourage learning and prepare offenders for release with the technological skills required to function in the 21st century workforce."

The post-secondary education students at the Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution (AOCI) Fallen Timbers Branch and the Ohio Reformatory for Women (ORW) Clearview School are the first to pilot online education. The SC programs utilizes a combination of online instruction and face-to-face instruction. The online instruction is in an Elearn shell that contains the documents, activities, class discussion boards, and tests the students need to complete the course work. The students are only able to access this course shell, and blocks are in place to ensure the students do not access the internet. Students are able to move through the lessons with weekly due dates. A facilitator supervises the students onsite while an instructor is available by a version of email inside the course shell. Students enjoy being able to use the state of art technology and are successful since they are working at their own pace for the semester.

Also, the Chillicothe Correctional Institution (CCI) Sherman School and Lake Erie Correctional Institution (LaECI) Lighthouse Learning Center are the first to tryout the JPay Inc., JP5 tablet with the Project Lantern Learning Management System developed for the Ashland University AJT students.



Apprenticeship Programs

The Ohio Central School System places an importance on apprenticeship training within the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. Apprenticeships are supervised work assignments that foster learning skill sets in a particular area for that job market. Students work toward and earn industry level certification while obtaining actual job experience. Additionally, students maintain a daily record of training plus 144 hours of related instruction per 2,000 hours of on-the-job instruction as prescribed by the Ohio State Apprenticeship Council. Certificates of Completion are issued by the US Department of Labor (DOL) when the required hours are met.

The efforts of our institutional staff to increase enrollment can now be seen with a 36.9% increase from FY2014 to 2015; our student completion numbers also show an increase. In FY2014, OCSS had one hundred eighty-seven 50% completers and ninety-four 100% completers. In FY2015, the numbers increased to two hundred ninety-seven 50% completers and one hundred sixty-four 100% completers representing a 58.8% and 74.5% increase. This increase in student completion is due to staff encouragement and support of the apprentices.

Currently there are over fifty apprenticeship occupations operating within ODRC. Apprenticeship programs are added that benefit the inmate population and institution, ensuring that the education is relevant in today's workforce. Apprenticeships range from aquaponics to welding. A few of the expanded apprenticeships in FY2015 include Recycling

for the London Correctional Institution (LoCI), the approval of a Quality Control Inspector through the Shaker Valley School at the Lebanon Correctional Institution (LeCI), and Machine Operator Apprentice for the Turtle Creek Branch at the Warren Correctional Institution (WCI).

A few new projects to highlight include the 8,000 hour Film and Video Editor Apprenticeship currently offered at the Grafton Correctional Institution (GCI), LaECI, and Northeast Reintegration Center (NeRC) with 16 inmates enrolled. The GCI Sherwood Anderson School was able to send a Film Apprentice to work at the Reentry Summit held in Akron, Ohio. Also, the Tecumseh Branch Recovery Operator Apprentices had a great year recycling over 36 tons of cans, cardboard, plastic, and various materials to improve the recycling efforts for the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (SOCF).

In addition, the NeRC Robert Merrill School Annual Apprenticeship Banquet was recently held. Twenty apprentices and five work supervisors enjoyed lunch and were commended for their efforts by Warden Eppinger. They were recognized for their hard work in the following apprenticeship programs: Animal Trainer, Cook, Horticulturist, Janitor, Landscape Management Technician, Maintenance Repairer, Building, and Recovery Operator. The warden noted the hard work of the program supervisors who remain committed in supporting these apprenticeship programs.



Career-Technical Education

The OCSS Career-Technical (vocational) Education links the student's interest and passion to a career. The programs provide participants with the applied practice to learn and develop the skill base with the goal of gainful employment upon release. Career-Technical Education (CTE) provides an industry based curriculum embedded in real-world experience. CTE training includes studies in auto collision technician, auto detailing, auto technology, Administrative Professional Support (APS), barbering, cosmetology, carpentry, commercial baking, construction technology, drafting, drywall, electronics/computer repair, graphic occupations, food management & production services, Graduation, Reality And Dual-Role Skills (GRADS) program, Graphic Occupations, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), horticulture, machine trades, masonry, medium heavy truck diesel, plumbing, Power Equipment Technology (PET), production agriculture, resilient flooring, visual communication, web design & computer graphics, and welding. These are programs designed to teach students career-technical content standards while exposing them to real work experience. Students have the opportunity to earn industry level certifications which are issued by state boards or nationally recognized organizations.

For example, Trumbull Correctional Institution's (TCI) low security camp provides hands-on high tech career training where students learn skills needed to be successful in today's highly competitive job market. Recently, the Electronics/Computer Repair Program at the TCI Western Reserve School graduated the first group of students since its reopening in 2013. The program features computer hardware repair and software development where the students replace computer assemblies, write programming codes, and design direct current (DC) and alternating current (AC) circuits, digital electronics, and robotics. Soft skills such as collaboration, public speaking, and job search techniques add to the process of providing for successful reintegration upon release. The graduating students received certificates of completion as well as industry credentials. Instructor Bob Dukish remarked that the group of students was one of the "best and most highly motivated" with whom he had ever worked.

The LaECI Lighthouse Learning Center is pleased to highlight the drywall program as Mr. Lathan has his students working

on framing and barrel vault projects. At the LoCI Buckeye Branch, Brad Pierce instructs offenders who are interested in obtaining their certification in Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). Potential employers look at this credential with the understanding and respect that the individual has studied and remained knowledgeable with what is current involving automotive technologies. It also demonstrates to the employer that the individual is working to better himself, is willing to work, and has a need remain productive and a part of the community. Recently, another one of his students passed the ASE test. To date, graduates of the program as a whole have a very low recidivism rate. In addition, the LoCI Buckeye Branch Barber School conducted a State Barber Board Exam in June 2015. There were six students who completed the two year, 1,800 hour program. The students were allotted an hour and a half to complete the shave and haircut practical portion of the exam, followed by a fifty question written exam. They also had to write the rules and regulations by memory. Instructors Mrs. Crawford and Mr. Hampton received notice that all six students successfully passed the exam and will be issued barber licenses. These students now have the job skill set they will need to acquire gainful employment upon release.

Eleven Madison Branch students of the CTE Horticulture program at Madison Correctional Institution (MaCI) recently obtained certification through The Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association (ONLA). Eight of the eleven students obtained Master Technician status by passing all four tests (Core, Landscape, Grower, and Garden Center). The ONLA tests are offered to students in an effort to further their chances of employability within the horticulture industry.

OCSS Career-Technical online testing is also underway. WebXam is delivered by The Ohio State University (OSU) Center on Education and Training for Employment. WebXam tests mastery of knowledge in education settings. In FY2015, MaCI was the first to administer the WebXam test on the same day for the APS students in the CTE computer lab and the Horticulture students in the academic CAIL. Certificates are printed and awarded to those students who pass the WebXam modules.



Community Service Programs

Once again community service is delivered across the Ohio Central School System and continues to grow each year. Community service gives inmates the tools to achieve goals, allowing them to give back in the process. It is these experiences that help inmates join in the greater good while building confidence and self-esteem.

The TCI Western Reserve School carpentry students worked hard to construct six handmade bunk-beds. When completed, the bunks were presented to TCI's non-profit community partner for a newly acquired location. Numerous inmate groups donated the required funds to purchase the materials. The institution LINKS, NAACP, Veterans, United Purpose, and Toastmasters all joined hands to make this project come to life. The AOCI Fallen Timbers Branch students also built two back-to-back wooden benches for the Elida School District.

OCSS inmates have partnered with Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to grow plants, flowers, shrubs, and trees for living walls on Ohio highways. The joint effort between the Shawnee School Pickaway Correction Institution's (PCI) farm staff and ODOT entails three phases of planting flowers and wild grasses along Ohio highways and byways. The first phase completed was planting sunflowers along I-71 from Cincinnati to Cleveland. The planting of wildflowers to bloom in September and prairie grass to be planted in the fall are the second and third phases of this project.

The SCC Hilltop School horticulture students developed a Community Garden. The vegetables grown in the class were donated to local families in need. In addition, OCSS students grew all of the annual flowers for the Governor's Residence this past year. The OCSS horticulture teachers were excited to be invited to attend The Friends of Heritage Garden ceremony to view the flowers. The teachers were given a tour

of the grounds to check out the landscaping after the annual planning meeting.

At Marion Correctional Institution (MCI), Jonathan Barrett teaches Production Agriculture for the Hope Memorial School. Students in his class are participating in a very thoughtful community service project that is sure to put a smile on a lot of children's faces. Pumpkins are being grown and donated to the New Hope Early Childhood Center in Richland County and to The Ronald McDonald House in Columbus, Ohio.

This year, inmates at the Ohio Reformatory for Women purchased items at commissary and donated them to the school supply drive. They also got involved by making posters and flyers. The ORW Clearview School staff had drop boxes at the buildings' entrance to collect supplies, and they also raised money by "wear jeans to work day."

In May, AOCI's community service program donated two bicycles to the Lima Rescue Mission. The Lima Rescue Mission has been restoring hope and rebuilding lives by reaching out to poor and homeless men in Lima and surrounding areas since 1906.

OCSS in collaboration with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History (CMNH) are working on a few initiatives to support efforts that will help save the Harris Checkerspot butterfly population from extinction. Also, student apprentice programs continue to help raise and develop habitats for the Eastern hellbenders release into eastern Ohio streams, as relationships between OCSS, the Wilds, and Columbus Zoo continue to develop providing community service opportunities statewide.



Education Enrichment

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction has a mission to reduce recidivism, and the Ohio Central School System is helping to accomplish this task by providing education for Ohio offenders to include productive programming that extends beyond the prison walls. Denise L. Justice, OCSS Superintendent, is a strong advocate for correctional education and has worked to bring new and innovative ways to keep the inmates excited about learning. OCSS provides academics and vocational education opportunities to all inmates including ABLE, GED®, High School, Apprenticeship, Library Services, Special Education, CTE, and work force development skills.

Reading Horizons filmed a promotional YouTube video at PCI for their Elevate literacy software. Elevate is an entry level reading and writing instructional software package for correctional education. The video featured testimony from Superintendent Denise L. Justice, literacy instructors Marianne Huffman and Kathy Cupp, and inmates discussing the benefits and successes of the Elevate program. It is a custom fit for every learner and allows students to progress at their own speed. Elevate ensures that the students are receiving efficient reading and writing instruction by continuously assessing, instructing, and adapting content to match each student's individual needs.

In FY2015, Superintendent Justice was pleased to be the co-sponsor of an ODRC Executive Leadership project that developed an Entrepreneurship pilot on the grounds of the Southeastern Correctional Complex. This pilot will be monitored over time as it offers participants the materials and tools to develop a reentry plan prior to release. Also, OCSS was happy to help ODRC and the Training, Assessment, and Placement Project (TAPP) work with manufacturers in central Ohio. The process involves low security level, non-violent offenders filling out an application, taking a written exam, and conducting an interview. TAPP identifies skilled people in the last month of their prison sentences and attempts to match their abilities with an employer.

The OPEC colleges and universities play a large role in providing AJT education enrichment for offenders. The Ohio University correctional education program has been providing print-based courses for incarcerated students since 1974. On the Sinclair Community College (SC) campus, a workshop was

held featuring inmates from four correctional institutions. It was organized and hosted by Pamela Chambers, a professor in the Criminal Justice Department and an Advanced Job Training (AJT) instructor for SC. Inmates communicated with the faculty through live streaming video. The workshop was held to help SC better understand the obstacles that AJT students face and possible solutions to those problems. The workshop also highlighted some of the accomplishments and future goals of those who have completed or are currently attending an AJT program. As one AJT student stated, "Taking classes here [with SC while incarcerated] really wasn't the way I planned on going [to college], but I'm very grateful for it because it made me focus on what I'm good at... and the certificates are really going to help me."

Urbana University has been in London Correctional Institution since 1975 along with their long running AJT program. They have offered tutor led workshops for the past few years with great success. All of their tutors have college degrees or have completed Urbana's two-year AJT program, and they bring a wide variety of knowledge and skill sets to the program. By tapping into this resource, they have greatly expanded the breadth of knowledge that their student body can acquire. They are currently offering workshops in Beginning Spanish, Advanced Spanish, Real Estate Investing, Abnormal Psychology, and Writing. As one graduate writes, "I truly believe that the classes I took at Urbana University changed by life, and I personally credit the education I received as a big part of my recovery."

Other initiatives to highlight include the efforts made by the Dayton Correctional Institution (DCI) McLin School CTE culinary students to prepare meals for veterans. At the Correctional Reception Center (CRC), librarian Chuck Steinbower received a grant to host/moderate a Civil Rights panel. The expert panel consisted of Alan Zak, Angela Johnson, and Reggie Barnes. Mr. Barnes, who came from Mississippi State, had personally experienced the inequities and injustices during the Civil Rights era. The panel will visit three different schools—CRC Walker School, PCI Shawnee Branch, and Franklin Medical Center (FMC) Sacajawea Center—to discuss civil rights issues.



Graduation

Graduation ceremonies and events provide ODRC staff the opportunity to recognize and encourage students and their academic accomplishments. All the OCSS institution schools such as the Belmont Correctional Institution (BeCI) Eastern Horizons Center, DCI McLin School, MCI Hope Memorial School, and the ORW Clearview School celebrate the success of the students. Certificates are awarded for completion of Adult Basic Literacy Education Certificates, Adult High School Diplomas, Apprenticeship Training Certificates, Career-Technical Education Certificates, GED® Diplomas, Pre-GED®, and AJT Certificates.

The BeCI Eastern Horizons Center hosted its 20th graduation ceremony where 105 graduates were recognized for completing various educational programs. BeCI's Captain Jackson attended because he was instrumental in encouraging one of the students to continue with the CTE Administrative Professional Support program. Another 60 visitors, friends, and family members attended the ceremony to show their support.

MCI's Hope Memorial School also held a ceremony to recognize graduates. A total of 60 students received a certificate of completion for the following: ABLE, Pre-GED, GED®, CTE Production Agriculture, and various apprenticeship programs. Guest speaker Milton Franklin III focused his speech on graduates continuing to strive to better themselves as they prepare for reentry.

In addition, the Sinclair Community College AJT program hosted its second graduation at ORW in February 2015. This

year's theme was "Celebrating Success One Step at a Time." Prior to awarding certificates, AJT Adjunct Instructor and ex-offender Sulema Lewis addressed the victories she achieved despite her criminal record to the AJT student body and encouraged them to stay the course despite whatever obstacles they may face upon release. Former AJT student Ashley Caffey, who was recently released, shared with the students what it has been like to leave ORW and transition to life on the outside. She is now taking classes in Mental Health Technology/Chemical Dependency at SC in Dayton, Ohio, and was inducted into the National Honor Society. Students who were on the Dean's list for the previous year were recognized, and 191 certificates were awarded.

Sinclair also held its first certificate program ceremony at DCI. The ceremony was conducted with the assistance of program director Cheryl Taylor. There were 46 students who participated in receiving their certificates. Also, in FY2015, Urbana University was pleased to highlight their certificate ceremony held at the London Correctional Institution with the opportunity to showcase one of their Entrepreneurship Program completers. The Marion Technical College highlights the graduation ceremony that took place at the North Central Correctional Complex (NCCC) in Marion, Ohio.

The Ohio Central School System administration and staff congratulate all graduates. Best wishes go out to each and every student.



Library Services

Fiscal year 2015 involved merges of institutions with closing and opening of camp libraries. Today, there are 27 institutions with 38 libraries run by 43 fulltime library employees.

Many institution libraries have a variety of print, audio and video materials available for the use of their populations. Some libraries provide music, films and other media to enhance the library experience for the institution patrons. The libraries have a combined total of 4,969,140 books, of which 42,219 were added to the ODRC circulation. The libraries accepted 39,708 material donations; with a value of \$168,786 in cost savings.

We had an average monthly population of 51,068 inmates, with an average of 89,316 patron visits to the libraries each month. They borrowed an average of 16,057 books at each library, looked at an average of 23,529 periodicals at each library, and used 18,964 A/V materials (audiotapes/CDs/VHS & DVDs). Patrons asked an average of 4,199 questions each month and made 2,337 Interlibrary Loan Requests each month.

In each library, the Mandarin M3 Library Automation System tracks book loans and returns and makes getting overdue books back much easier. The statewide system also provides many of the numbers used in this report. The goal in the next few years is provide digital devices to the library circulation and merge all the library catalogs so that books currently in the system can be used and possibly lessen the number of books we will need to request from neighborhood libraries.

The institution libraries rely on the inmate library aides to check out books to inmates. Using a barcode scanner,

the inmate at the Toledo Correctional Institution (ToCI) Goose Hill Branch Library is pictured either checking a book in that an inmate had borrowed or is checking the book out to an inmate. Inmates who use the libraries provide their inmate ID to the aides to check out books. At many institutions, the infrastructure specialist have helped the librarian download the needed information from the ODRC Department Offender Tracking System (DOTS) Portal so it can be transferred to the M3 database. When books are overdue, the notices can be printed, sorted, and sent to the correct housing unit without the librarian having to look up housing units for each inmate with an overdue book. The Mandarin M3 Library Automation System standardized the library process statewide and has made it far easier to locate books that have not been returned.

In other news this year, Andrew Hart, MLS, was recognized by the Edward Tiffin School for his creative library programming. Shared Service Area (SSA) five (V) Principal Kim Parks, and Assistant Principal Michelle McCollister are pleased to highlight a few of the many programs Mr. Hart offers the RCI patrons. He uses the tools available in the Ross Correctional Institution (RCI) library to host book clubs, offers educational workshops, and has created a newsletter to inspire patrons. Each fall, when the Correctional Education Association (CEA) conference rolls around, you will find him presenting a unique program to the conference attendees. In 2015, his workshop was about genealogy. His presentation was jam packed with information.



Professional Development

The ODRC mission is to provide inmates with the tools and education that they will need upon their release and in doing so reduce the recidivism rate. In order for the Ohio Central School System to be successful in the education that is being provided, the administrators and teachers must stay current and abreast of the teaching aides available. This year the OCSS educators participated in professional development opportunities. They update their skills by attending events such as the Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) Learning Software training, professional development workshops such as SSA III Communication and Collaboration workshop held at the Ohio History Center (OHC), and a technology training for the SSA VIII staff held at the Noble Correctional Institution (NCI).

OCSS conducted software training for their administration and staff in August 2015 at schools in three Ohio prisons Richland Correctional Institution (RiCI), BeCI, and ORW to review the WIN learning software system. OCSS purchased the latest WIN software update to include a soft skills component. The Learning Career Readiness Solution gives a broad picture of industry demand and follows-up with skill development programs for jobs in those fields.

Each prison hosted two sessions of Train-the-Trainer in the academic Computer Aided Instructional Laboratories (CAIL). The WIN learning software is set up on a local area network to help students prepare for the GED® exam. Career-technical students use the CAIL software to prepare for WorkKeys testing. The plan is to upgrade the software to a web-based server environment to expand the career enhancement programming for the institutions. The web-based soft skills component called Work Habits, a training module for inmates to gain valuable skills, will first be piloted at the Southeastern Correctional Complex in Lancaster, Ohio with plans to be rolled out to all OCSS computer labs in the future. The goal of the WIN Learning training sessions is to educate administration and staff on how best to utilize the system for their institutions.

Also in FY2015, the Career-Technical Instructors participated in a group training at OSU to review new

and existing features of WebXam. Through its secure web-based system, WebXam handles the delivery, data tracking, and reporting of exams. WebXam is part of the Ohio Career-Technical Competency Assessment (OCTCA) system project conducted with the ODE and operated and maintained by The OSU Center on Education and Training for Employment (CETE). Since 2012, OCSS has assessed the following adult programs: APS, Auto Collision, Carpentry, Drafting, Electronics, Food Mgt. & Production Services, Horticulture, HVAC, PET, Production Agriculture, Visual Communications, and Welding.

SSA III (LoCI and MaCI) scheduled a professional development day for staff to refresh, reflect, and practice the 2Cs (Communication and Collaboration). They met at the OHC Museum to learn about the educational services and opportunities provided to students all over Ohio. OHC museum staff and ODRC employees worked together at the Ohio Village to find creative ways to aid OCSS students in gaining knowledge and societal skills using museum resources such as the Ohio History Connection webinars and eField Trips. This day was also important as it allowed OCSS educators to find new ways to help students meet the demands of the new GED® test

Additionally, training took place in the NCI Sequoyah School during in-service week provided by the SSA VIII Principal Angela Adams and Assistant Principal Jeffrey Carpenter. This technology training included a review of the ODRC Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) and consistency in reporting EDM and RAP3 in DOTS, while Ryan Beardsley, Title 1 Teacher, presented internet security with the interactive BrightLink projectors as well as the importance of the teaching staff conducting YouTube reviews. Also, Microsoft Outlook calendars will be used to improve organization, communication, and report completion.



Reentry Education

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction recognizes and offers education programs and reentry planning to assist ex-offenders in their reintegration to society and to ultimately reduce recidivism. Considering inmates who participate in educational programming and take classes are less likely to return to prison, encouraging education while incarcerated is a major step to reentry. ODRC along with ODJFS and local workforce development partners teamed up to create the O.N.E.- STOP shops that are available to provide job search workshops, resources, tools, and as of this summer assistance with obtaining Ohio Medicaid or health care insurance information prior to release. The ODRC O.N.E. STOP shops are dedicated to assisting offenders with pre-and post-release focused employment, training, and support services.

The Department has issued a total of 170 Certificates of Achievement and Employability during the past year, up from 93 in 2014. Applicants must have completed a vocational program, a behavioral program, and 120 hours of community service. Since the first three certificates were signed by Director Mohr, this program has remained pivotal in preparing students for their return to society. The AJT programs continue to encourage the CAEs in education and job training skills. This program is defined by its ability to provide the ODRC population with the opportunity to enhance skill development and credentials necessary for the participants to obtain employment upon release.

OCSS offers Computer Aided Instructional Laboratories in the schools to assist offenders with résumé writing and reentry planning. In addition to GED® practice, the CAIL offer CareerScope® assessments, keyboarding practice, Khan Academy education videos, WinWay Resume Deluxe, and more. ODRC libraries provide the Ohio Reentry Connections/OhioMeansJobs (OMJ) computers for individuals to access OhioMeansJobs.com to prepare an online résumé to match with prospective employers. Upon

release, this online résumé can be accessed and updated by visiting the community OhioMeansJobs Center, home computer, and/or local library.

The Eastern Horizons Center APS classes competed against each other to format and publish a brochure for the Belmont Correctional Institution. The brochure was created for the inmate population to learn more about the OMJ computers that are located in the BeCI library. The brochure is being sent by the library assistants to those offenders who are within 90 days of release to further inform them about the capabilities of the OMJ library computers.

Also in FY2015, the PCI Reintegration O.N.E.-STOP Shop hosted workshops for those within one year of release. A representative of the DOL Wage and Hour Division was able to take the time to review the resources the US Department of Labor can provide those interested.

In addition, PCI was proud to bring in Ms. Susan Colbert and Ms. Lois McCampbell from the OSU Extension Program as well as Ms. Christina Nichols with the Child Support Enforcement Agency and Ms. Rachel Holbert, program coordinator. They are currently volunteering their time to offer, coordinate, program, and instruct the Building Assets for Fathers and Families (BAFF) program. BAFF consists of four, 2-hour financial literacy workshops offered once a week for four consecutive weeks. It offers inmates who reside in Franklin County and have been ordered by the courts to pay child support an array of skill-sets that will build a collaborative relationship between the child support agency and fathers with their children. This program will provide tools to build personal financial development, credit education, positive child support financial counseling, home buying education, college pursuit directives, driver's license reinstatement, established paternity servicing, job preparation, and more.



Staff Recognition

The Ohio Central School System acknowledges the education administration and staff as consummate professionals. As leaders in the field of correctional education, OCSS educators and support staff are renowned for their dedication and the passion they bring to their careers.

ODRC is pleased to recognize the Youngstown State University staff for their dedication to building the correctional education AJT program for NeRC, and TCI. YSU has been an OPEC member since 2000 working in collaboration with the NeRC Robert Merrill School and TCI Western Reserve School offering innovative programming and student clubs, and opening up community service opportunities to participating students.

OCSS is proud to highlight Ms. Lynnmarie Fye as one of the leaders in her field. Lynnmarie Fye is a visual communications art teacher for the RiCI Hope Valley School located in Mansfield, Ohio. Ms. Fye teaches a pair of three-hour classes each weekday. She teaches all aspects of visual communication such as drawing, digital photography, video editing, and typography. The class also assists students in social skills, providing an outlet for students to voice their opinions and an opportunity to learn to respect the opinions of others. Some students attend classes for a full year before moving on to a career tech path, while others attend a single five-week module. Fye's students have won art competitions and also held jobs in their communities as tattoo artists, graphic designers, and portrait artists. Fye was recently the runner-up for the Teacher of the Year (TOY) Award for the Correctional Education Association of Ohio (CEAO). Her ultimate goal is to help her students become successful when they are released from prison.

It is important to note that SCC Hilltop School Teacher and FY2014 TOY Deborah Withem was announced the winner and honored during a luncheon at the Region III/IV CEA Conference held April 8-9, 2015, in Bloomington, Minnesota. Deborah was also recognized at the 69th Annual International CEA Conference and Training Event held June 22-25, 2015, in Arlington, Virginia.

Equally, Superintendent Denise L. Justice is pleased to announce that Janet Carter was named the 2015 CEAO Teacher of the Year. Ms. Carter is an OCSS Career-Technical Instructor teaching Administrative Professional Support on the grounds of the Madison Correctional Institution. "Janet exemplifies the quality of a dedicated teacher. She sets a high standard and it is encouraging to see a teacher embrace technology to better her students," said Superintendent Justice.

Ms. Carter is an instructor for the MaCI Madison Branch working in her 17th year as a correctional educator. She said, "When I first started teaching, I was a non-degreed Career-Technical instructor. Since then I have obtained an Associate's degree, a Bachelor's of Specialized Studies with a Human Relations concentration, and a Master's degree in Criminal Justice." Janet demonstrates to her students the power of lifelong learning as she is currently enrolled in the Ashland University Education Administration Master's degree program.

The Correctional Education Association, founded in 1945, is a professional organization serving educators and administrators who provide services to students in the correctional setting. The Ohio chapter was founded in 1987. CEA is the largest affiliate of the American Correctional Association. Ms. Carter was announced the winner and honored during a luncheon at the CEAO Fostering Independence through Education Conference held September 14-16 in Independence, Ohio. Janet will represent at the Region III CEA Conference and Training Event in the spring.

OCSS would be remiss if we didn't offer a sincere congratulations to our friends who retired in FY2015. We miss you but wish you the best of health and happiness for years to come.



2015... Another Great Year

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Denise L. Justice, Superintendent

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Ohio Central School System

Training and Education Center

1580 St. Rt. 56, P.O. Box 779

London, Ohio 43140

Phone: 740.845.3132

Fax: 740.845.3387

Denise.Justice@odrc.state.oh.us

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