

# 2018 Grand Jury Report on Correctional Facilities Located in Washington County

## **I. Introduction**

Pursuant to ORS 132.440, a grand jury panel was selected by the Circuit Court for the purpose of inspecting the conditions and management at four correctional facilities located in Washington County, Oregon: the Washington County Jail (WCJ), the Washington County Community Corrections Center (CCC), Harkins House (HH), and Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF).

We, the Grand Jurors, visited each facility. We were given an orientation by management and staff at each facility followed by a detailed walking tour. The management of each facility was aware of the reason for the Grand Jury's visit, and offered us access to any areas we wished to examine. The inspections provided the Grand Jury an adequate overview of the physical conditions of the facilities. The Grand Jury did not examine audits, budgetary records, detailed outside inspection reports, nor official findings aside what was provided at the mentioned orientation sessions. The grand jurors were provided with detailed statistical data when asked for it. We believe our review of each facility provided a realistic impression of the day-to-day operations, and allowed us to judge the overall fitness of the buildings, the attitude of staff and security strategies in practice.

The orientations and walking tours were interactive and the Grand Jurors were able to ask questions through each review. The staff at each facility provided additional information when asked. Though time constraints prevented us from examining every area of all four institutions, we are satisfied that we observed the overall structure of each facility and had access to any portion of the facilities we desired to see. As such, we feel that we can report reliably on the general physical condition and relative fitness of the facilities. It should be noted that each of the facilities were in full operation at the time of our visits.

Deputy District Attorneys Jeff Lesowski, Matt Lehman, and Matt Wise of the Washington County District Attorney's Office accompanied us on the tours. Despite their presence, we stipulate that this report is the Grand Jury's members alone, generated after the jurors met behind closed doors for a considerable time period to discuss our impressions and findings.

## **Washington County Jail (WCJ)**

Conducted: November 5, 2018

Duration: 3 hours approx.

Grand Jury Members: 7 out of 7 members present  
Accompanied by Sr. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Lesowski, Deputy District Attorneys Matt Lehman, and Matt Wise

Introduction: Pat Garrett, Sheriff

Orientation and Tour: Commander John Koch

### **Orientation/Overview**

Sheriff Pat Garrett personally welcomed the Grand Jurors and gave an introduction of the WCJ to the Grand Jury. Command staff provided facts and statistics about the jail, and answered all of the Grand Jury's questions. The presentation prior to the tour was detailed and provided a very helpful overview of the facility. The Grand Jury was pleased with the orientation. The Grand Jury took note of the fact that, the Sheriff and his staff talked about not only what they felt was good about the jail, but also candidly discussed goals for improvement. The Sheriff has a goal that inmates leave better than they were when they arrived. A related goal is that inmates are treated with respect from the arriving sally port onward. These are useful goals and appeared to be consistently implemented.

The tour itself included suggested areas encompassing much of the jail, but it was made clear to us that any part of the facility was available to review.

Overall, the grand jurors were impressed with the cleanliness of the jail.

### **Master Control**

Master Control is the "nerve center" of the jail. The Grand Jury took note of the fact that the Sheriff's Office seemed to be taking necessary safety precautions. We were impressed by control room workers' ability to watch all screens. We also noted that the guards use all senses (sight, smell & hearing) 360 degrees to track the actions in the pod and it takes a lot of energy. The color coding of inmate clothing according to level of custody was efficient and the pink underwear for men was efficient, reducing costs at inmate release. Overall, the ratio of about 60 inmates to one guard in each pod appears satisfactory; however, more staffing would be beneficial. Master control needs updating and a remodel due to ventilation problems caused by the extra heat from the added equipment. The grand jury noted a portable AC unit brought in and used for service.

**Intake Area**

The grand jury was not present during the initial processing of an inmate. The computer systems are updated and employees have been trained in the new system. The grand jury was shown the new full body scan system, which is helpful in allowing the officers to detect contraband and/or weapons.

**Medical**

The Grand Jury was made aware that each inmate was given a medical assessment as part of the intake process, for both physical and mental health care. Medications and outside medical providers would then be potentially arranged. The Grand Jury was very impressed with this process of medical examination at intake. The goal is that each new inmate gets a physical within two hours of arrival and it appears to be achieved. In addition, the jail medical cost was about \$5.4 million in 2018. The Grand Jury was made aware that the WCJ switched medical service providers for inmates. The Grand Jury appreciated the compassion that the providers appeared to have for the inmates.

In the medical observation housing unit (MOU), we noted that each inmate must be checked frequently. Medical staffing includes a psychiatric Nurse Practitioner. As stated by the previous grand jury, more staff is needed at the desk. This was confirmed by the Commander.

**Mental Health**

Staff commented about needing additional room for inmates who have a mental illness. Washington County appears to have sufficient mental health professionals as well as staff training. Additionally they work with other agencies to make sure that the county's mental health needs are being met.

**Forced Releases**

The Grand Jury was made aware that in 2018, there has been a significant increase in forced releases of inmates. There are many reasons behind this type of release, and although WCJ is doing its best at balancing mandated jail space requirements against its duty to house inmates, it unfortunately must release some inmates into the community who would otherwise be incarcerated because of the severity of their crime/s. The grand jury believes that electronic home monitoring is underutilized and should be expanded as a means to help with the problem that forced releases may pose to community.

Given the recent and projected growth in the County's population, and even if crime rates decrease, adding a new wing to the jail seems incumbent upon county leaders in the near term.

**Laundry**

The laundry facility was neat and organized. The Grand Jury took note of no issues which needed to be addressed.

**General**

The programs available to the inmates were generally impressive. It was reported that 80 inmates have a job while at the jail, which is about 15% of the total inmate population. It seems this could be improved. The jail staff reported they awarded 45 GEDs and 3 diplomas in 2017. Additionally, staff spoke of developing incentive and reward programs which the grand jury found is needed. Inmates should be rewarded for taking part in the programs for their improvement. We recommend improved accessibility to the inmate handbook. We noted that the outside activity areas for each pod, while adequate, are relatively small, and that opportunities for physical activity for inmates are limited. The Grand Jury was impressed with the overall security of the WCJ.

### **Kitchen**

The kitchen facility was clean, orderly and appeared efficient. The jail reported an average cost per meal \$1.33, which is very competitive. Water and food scraps are recycled, increasing sustainability and reducing cost. The Grand Jury was made aware that the jail kitchen serves as a central kitchen for multiple facilities (WCJ, WCCCC). This appears to be cost efficient.

We encourage the jail to continue providing healthy meals to inmates, and to the extent possible working to add healthier options. The new contractor providing meals, Trinity, seems to be doing a good job addressing these issues.

### **Overall**

The new camera system, which provides better quality and covers more areas, has been fully implemented.

The grand jurors would like to see the jail develop better processes and policies for transgender inmates and believe that it would be good for the jail to set goals and give examples when reviewing with the grand jurors in the future. It is worth noting that the 2018 grand jury didn't receive any additional information.

\* The entire facility was clean, safe, and appeared to be very well-managed. It was generally quiet and controlled. The Grand Jury was impressed with this facility.



## **Washington County Community Corrections Center (CCC)**

Conducted: October 29, 2018

Duration: 4 hours (approx.)

Grand Jury Members: 7 of 7 were present  
Accompanied by Sr. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Lesowski, Deputy District Attorneys Matt Lehman, and Matt Wise

Introduction: Director Steve Berger and Manager Karleigh Molihan

Orientation and Tour: Director Steve Berger and Manager Karleigh Molihan

### **Orientation/Overview**

Director Steve Berger and Manager Karleigh Molihan personally welcomed the jurors upon arrival in the lobby. We were escorted into a conference room and provided an introduction and overview of the CCC. We were provided facts and statistics about the CCC, and answers to our questions were provided. The presentation prior to the tour was helpful and informative. We learned about the physical facility, its function and purpose, and the many programs available for residents, as well as an overview of the relationship between the three county-run institutions that were reviewed (WCJ, CCC, HHH). We learned that most of the residents of the CCC are sentenced inmates who had once been in the WCJ, but whom judges have allowed to transfer to the CCC to finish their sentences. They clarified that residents stay up to one year but 63% are there for less than 30 days. They do not track recidivism due to the short amount of time they have the residents.

The orientation emphasized continuous quality improvement in operations and administration. It was clear that WCCC is utilizing and tracking inmate feedback in their own self-improvement process. They also use peer review, which is an excellent way for the public to be assured that there is an outside check and comparison. Significant security and staffing improvements were discussed, including equipment to detect drinking, sweat detection technology and personal GPS monitors

The Grand Jury was made aware of the following recent changes, and believes that these are positive changes:

- GPS and/or alcohol monitoring for sexual offenders and domestic violence offenders who leave the facility.
- Increased waiting period before eligibility for passes (from 7 days to 14 for unemployed residents).

- Limiting the maximum amount of time for a pass to 12 hours.
- Denial of passes to residents who pose a risk of escape or who are an imminent threat to an individual or the general public.
- A body scanner has been purchased but not installed.
- Increase in building security by (1) installing bullet proof material at the front desk, (2) improved monitoring of exits and check-outs and (3) improved property search station.
- Improved security by increasing security staff and converting on-call variable hour positions to 3 full time positions in order to improve the monitoring of the facility's exit and check-outs.

### **Remodel**

The Remodel has done an effective job of providing a physical barrier separating the entrance lobby from the corridor leading to the interior of the CCC. It has helped increase the security of the facility.

### **Failure to Return**

The CCC has a failure to return rate (within two hours) of .02, which seems satisfactory. They have increased the waiting period for passes and appear to have solid criteria for social, medical and transition passes.

One of the CCC's primary goals is to effectively change their resident's behavior so they can successfully integrate back in to mainstream society. In order to accomplish this goal, CCC:

- Develops individualized plans for residents by providing assistance with employment, housing, treatment and support.
- Coordinates with the residents' parole and probation supervision.
- Provides onsite programs and services.
- Trains new, positive behaviors.
- Works with community providers.
- Addresses resident's risk factors.

The grand jurors appreciate the goals created by the CCC.

### **Security**

The Grand Jury was impressed with the facility's security features. Among the security features were (1) window and door alarms, (2) fire alarms, (3) duress call buttons throughout the facility, (4) staff body alarms and radios, (5) routine resident counts, (6) video monitoring and (7) resident and facility searches.

### **Programs Offered**

A resident is offered an array of programs by the CCC during their stay. Among these programs offered are:

- Cognitive-behavioral treatment
- Mental health evaluation
- Medication management

- Substance abuse treatment
- 12 step programs
- Peer mentoring
- Employment counseling and job referral
- Housing placement
- Anger management
- Wellness/nutrition
- Prison fellowship
- Life Skills

### **Room & Board-Paying rent**

The Grand Jury was made aware that, if inmates have a job, they are required to pay rent which is twice their hourly rate per day. The Grand Jury believes this to be beneficial. Residents must remain current on his/her rent payments. If they do not – the resident is at risk of losing day passes and other privileges.

### **Counselors**

The Grand Jury was made aware that there are adequate counselors. The counselor caseload is 15-20 residents per counselor, which is lower than the national average (around 24). It looks like that is effective for the program and is efficient because they do more than the typical resident counselor (ex. release scheduling and other duties). Currently 85% of Center residents complete the CCC Release Program.

### **Resume / application / job search assistance**

The Grand Jury applauds the assistance the CCC provides to inmates in the area of resume writing and job searches. The general policy requiring job searches of every inmate is a beneficial policy.

### **Response To Substance Abuse**

Possession of drugs in CCC is prohibited and if a resident is found in possession of drugs - law enforcement is notified and the resident is investigated. The resident is also returned to jail to finish out their sentence.

The first time a resident fails UA or admits to using drugs – they loss an entire month's worth of passes and are subject to increased drug screenings. The second time a resident fails a UA or admits to using drugs – they are immediately returned to jail.

CCC has a highly successful substance abuse intervention program. CCC employs chemical dependency services such as:

- Assessments
- Intensive Outpatient
- Outpatient
- Residential treatment
- Recovery mentors
- Self-help groups
- Drug screening

- Clean and sober housing

CCC employs a 90 day residential treatment program which ranks in the top 8% nationally based upon evaluations utilizing the Corrections Program Checklist.

### **Drug Screening Strategies**

CCC utilizes several methods to detect drugs used by their residents or stored in their facility. Among the methods used are:

- Eye scans
- Breathalyzer tests
- Instant urinalysis
- Lab treated urinalysis
- Drug dog searches
- Person and property searches
- Random dorm, locker and area searches

### **Employment Services**

Residents who enter the CCC program unemployed are immediately referred to the Employment Services Program during the 'blackout' period. This program requires the resident to attend job search and job retention classes as well teach them how to fill out job resumes before becoming eligible to engage in actual job searches. Upon successful completion of attending these classes – residents are given access to the facility's Employment Resource Center where they are given online access to job search activities. After a resident gains employment (and for those residents who enter CCC already employed), CCC contacts the resident's employer to verify specific information such as name of the company, supervisor contact info, overtime policies, absenteeism, etc. If an employer is not willing to abide by the CCC conditions of resident's employment, the resident will not be allowed to work for that employer.

### **Housing After Release**

The CCC continually works to get inmates into clean and sober housing after release, with a goal of placing 70% of residents in housing with clean & sober living situations. They are achieving 68% placement in these stable households and have contracted for 350 beds in local programs for stable housing. They use mentors (who had prior addictions) to help with current addicts. They seek to connect 80% of residents to a support group upon resident release and actually place 96%. The Center does drug monitor screenings 2-3 times a week, which exceeds the level defined by the National Drug Court Institute. Last year that totaled 23,872 screenings with 5.2% positive. The goal is to treat 95% of substance abusers and they are actually treating 100%. We were told their Chemically Dependency Program rates in the top 8% nationally.

CCC also has an employment goal for 50% of residents to have a job at time of release and currently achieve a job for 43% of residents. This ongoing work is a positive aspect of the CCC's attempt to transition inmates into the community.

### **Overall**

The entire CCC facility was clean and appeared to be well-maintained, safe, and well-managed. Significant effort has been made to live up to the past statements of “evidence based” criteria for determining success. They provided solid statistics about the program and several performance metrics which they are continuing to improve.

The grand jury further recommends diversity classes including gender awareness, more access to physical fitness, more fitness equipment for strength and core, resistance training, pull up bars, and a sit up bench, Literacy class for residents, and access for all residents to programs like yoga and occupational therapy.

## **Harkins House (HH)**

Conducted:	October 29, 2018
Duration:	1.5 hours (approx.)
Grand Jury Members:	7 of 7 members were present Accompanied by Deputy District Attorneys Matt Lehman and Matt Wise
Introduction:	LaRoy Labonte, Shelter Manager
Orientation and Tour:	LaRoy Labonte, Manager, and Lynne Schroeder, Juvenile Director

### **Orientation/Overview**

The Grand Jury met with Mr. LaBonte and Ms. Schroeder at the Harkins House facility. Harkins House (HH) is a temporary residential shelter care and evaluation program for boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 17. The program provides evaluation and individual care for delinquent youth with matters pending in juvenile court. The juveniles must volunteer to participate in the program. The program performs a comprehensive evaluation of each youth. Both personal responsibility and maintaining respectful behavior are strongly emphasized. A behavior management program rewards youth with increased privileges using a 'Star' system.

The HH program is set up to host 19 juveniles. However, the current budget limits the program to 14 juveniles. The average stay is about 45 days. Any stay longer than 90 days must be justified to a committee at HH. During the stay, an evaluation and assessment is administered by a case manager after 30 days of residence.

HH maintains a relationship with the Donald E. Long facility in Multnomah County for juvenile delinquent youths, at which there are 14 beds available to Washington County. HH provides services to juveniles, including on-site school, residential activities, mental health services, group treatment, and parental services. All residents must participate in some form of educational programming, which can include on-site school, GED preparation, post-graduation education or vocational activities. Juveniles are also required to participate in six hours of group, individual, and family counseling every week. School programming is tailored to each individual juvenile based upon assessment and intervention needs. Caseworkers work to integrate juveniles back into school. The on-site classroom appeared conducive to a good learning experience.

Harkins House seeks to connect parents with ongoing counseling services and help parents to establish positive relationships with their kids again. The long-term aim is to reduce recidivism.

Harkins House appears to be meeting the demand for services and ensuring a high "graduation" rate, meaning those that complete the program and have learned decision-making skills.

**Outdoor Recreational Area**

The outdoor recreational area was a nice open, covered area which offered both a basketball and volleyball court for exercise fitness activities. The area was clean and secured by an outer fence. HH staff was present and engaged with the youth. The outdoor recreational area provides the residents an opportunity to form positive social bonds with other residents and also provides a productive outlet to direct their negative behavior.

**Classroom**

HH currently provides a full day onsite educational program which is taught by an instructor from the Hillsboro School District. HH provides this academic program to help their residents keep from falling behind in their academic studies and to provide an easier transition back in to mainstream school once they leave the facility.

**Dormitories**

The dormitory is segregated by gender and features single-occupancy rooms. The common areas were clean and presentable and monitored by a HH staff member. The residents are assigned chores, have daily housekeeping responsibilities, and do their own laundry. The setup seems well suited to provide security for each resident. Each resident is responsible for maintaining their own room and for the overall upkeep of the facility, which the Grand Jury noticed has a positive effect on the overall appearance of the facility.

**Extracurricular Activities**

The Grand Jury was impressed with the efforts to which Harkins House staff went to provide the youth with special holiday meals with family, certain outings and field trips, the art program, the counselling services, both group and individual, the community service, and the yoga that was available for the youth.

**Dining Hall & Kitchen**

The dining hall and kitchen facilities were very clean and tidy. The recent switch from getting food provided by the Washington County Jail to having an on-site cook has greatly benefited the nutrition value of the food. It has also allowed the youth to get food handlers licenses and work with the cook to learn basic kitchen skill. The cook has spoken to local restaurants about the possibility of internships that could lead to jobs for the youth after they graduate.

**Overall**

The environment at HH was very positive. The facility was clean, quiet, and appeared to be well-managed and safe. The Grand Jury was impressed with this facility. The grand jurors would recommend that funding be provided to increase skills for juveniles at Harkins House in areas that could lead to jobs after graduation. As noted by last year's grand jury panel, the Grand Jury recommends additional funding be provided to HH's general budget so the shelter can accommodate its maximum number of residents of 18

youths. Additionally, the grand jury believes HH would benefit from increased funding for other programs such as culinary arts, therapeutic arts, and vocational programs. The grand jury also applauds their relationship to Pacific University for mindfulness programs. HH provides an invaluable service to our community and the Grand Jury would like to see our troubled youth be given an opportunity to benefit from resources HH has to offer them.

The grand jurors encourage Harkins House leaders to expand community outreach in an effort to increase volunteer opportunities and donations in hopes of resolving some of the budget issues.



## **Coffee Creek Correctional Facility (CCCF)**

Conducted:	October 30, 2018
Duration:	4 hours (approx.)
Grand Jury Members:	7 of 7 members were present Accompanied by Deputy District Attorneys Matt Lehman and Matt Wise
Introduction:	Supervisor/PIO Vicki Reynolds
Orientation and Tour:	Supervisor/PIO Vicki Reynolds

### **Orientation/Overview**

Coffee Creek Correctional Facility accommodates all of Oregon's female inmates, and provides intake and evaluation of all female and male inmates committed to Oregon custody. CCCF is located within Washington County and, therefore, falls within the present Grand Jury's review even though it is operated by the State of Oregon.

Vicki Reynolds personally welcomed the jurors upon arrival. After we successfully completed the visitor's rigorous security process, we were given orientation on the facility. We were given handouts which cover key points about the CCCF facilities and provides matrices regarding statistical information such as costs per inmate, recidivism rates, national statistics comparisons, etc. that furnish an overview of the facility and highlight measures from the year in review.

Each inmate that comes through the CCCF goes through an assessment that includes ranking the inmate between "1-5" for security needs. A case plan is created and is passed along to the State detention facility where the inmate is placed. CCCF is the temporary intake center for all Oregon inmates sentenced to prison sentences, as well as the only Oregon prison for female inmates. CCCF contains a a medium security facility (which houses both males and females in separate living accommodations) and a minimum security facility (which houses females who typically have less than four years left on their sentence).

The Grand Jury was provided with an overview of counseling and rehabilitation options available to inmates.

### **Employee morale**

The facility has a wall which recognizes certain employees' honors and achievements. This is a great reinforcement tool for those doing a good job, and motivation for all employees.

### **Security**

Overall, the Grand Jury thought the facility had good security, with good procedures and attentive staff.

### **Intake**

The grand jury observed the area where inmates arrive at CCCF from the different county jails. The facility had a reliable system to check on inmates who moved from building to building. The separate area for inmates with disabilities was a beneficial component of the intake unit.

### **Medium Security Facility**

The medium security facility houses both male and female intake prisoners as well as female medium security prisoners. The Grand Jury panel was impressed with the overall security and operation of this facility and observed it to be well maintained and efficiently ran.

### **Minimum Security Facility**

Each pod within the housing units houses 108-116 inmates in an open dormitory setting. Each pod is supervised by one corrections officer. The Grand Jury feels this ratio of inmates-to-officer to be high. We recommend that this issue be addressed. We observed that the campus of CCCF is spacious and is being utilized for a gardening program and had extra buildings for other programs. The dorms appeared to be very clean and well taken care of.

### **Faith Center**

The diversity of spiritual programs and the spiritual library available to inmates were both beneficial to the inmates and we commend the efforts that are made to provide faith and cultural opportunities to inmates.

### **Kitchen**

The kitchen appeared clean and satisfactory. Food was prepared in the kitchen and loaded on cafeteria style carts which were then rolled out in the halls just outside of the housing pods where inmates were allowed to come out and prepare their own plates to take back to their cells. The grand jury appreciated the collaboration of food technician with jail technicians and inmates.

### **Programs**

The Grand Jury was impressed with the available programs at both the minimum and medium-security sections of CCCF. The work force development programs such as hair design, barista, quilting, scanning, welding, LME (limited maintenance electricians), and DMV employment in medium security are very good programs, both in terms of their positive impact on the inmates and in how it provides a benefit to the community.

We learned about the CCCF dog program, where certain female inmates work closely to train dogs for specialty assistance tasks, such as facility and service dogs. We were not able to see some of the dogs directly interact with some of the inmate trainers. We

conclude that this program is very beneficial to the community and is therapeutic for the inmates.

We were glad to see an active GED program and encourage utilization of the program.

### **Overall**

As noted in prior reviews, reviewing individual CCCF efficiency and effectiveness performance metrics relating to costs, recidivism and program outcomes would be extremely helpful in comparing CCCF with other facilities in Oregon and the United States. We recommend that future Grand Juries follow up on this point. The CCCF facility appeared to be well-maintained, safe, and generally well-managed.

### **General Comments re: all correctional facilities located in Washington County**

- All facilities need additional funding and operational flexibility in order to compete for qualified staff.
- All facilities could benefit from outreach programs to increase community awareness of their unique services.
- Washington County should explore participating in work programs similar to other community stakeholders.

Dated: November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Vidhi Chopshi

### **Vidhi**

~~Vidhi~~ Chokshi, Grand Jury Foreperson  
Nancy Ripperda  
Michelle Bingham  
Ignacio Dominguez  
Margaret Lindner  
Chad Samuel  
Stephan Hargett

[Signature]

Matt Wise, Deputy District Attorney