

The Adult Institutions



State of Louisiana
Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Office of the Secretary

A Message from the Secretary

Prisons are complex operations, where security considerations underlie everything. Security, however, involves more than fences, barbed wire coils, gates, and keys. Security includes an environment where inmates are occupied constructively during waking hours, where inmates have access to educational and recreational programming and the opportunity to be involved in volunteer-led substance abuse groups and religious programs.

A lot of people form their ideas about what prison is like from fictionalized accounts they see on television. While local media reports can help bring the picture into better focus, that coverage is limited by time and space restrictions and, often, by short-term public interest.

We have developed this pamphlet in an effort to describe basic policies and practices followed in the adult institutions. Our intent is to answer the questions that persons outside the system often raise and, in doing so, move beyond generic television images to reality in Louisiana.

About 5500 employees work in the adult system. Most support staff (classification, medical and mental health, clerical, for example) work 8-hour shifts, five days a week; most correctional officers work 12-hour rotating shifts. Wardens and other key staff are on-call around the clock. The information provided on the following pages will help you understand one of the hardest working segments of state government.

We appreciate your interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Stalder', with a stylized, cursive-like flourish at the end.

Richard L. Stalder
Secretary

Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections
Corrections Services

Mission

To provide for the custody, control, care, and treatment of adjudicated offenders through enforcement of laws and management of programs designed to insure the safety of the public, staff, and inmates and to reintegrate offenders into society.

Goals by Priority

1. Public Safety: Maximize public safety through appropriate and effective correctional custodial programs, supervisory services, and community corrections partnerships.
2. Staff and Inmate Safety: Provide for the safety of correctional staff and inmates by maintaining an organized and disciplined system of operations that promotes stability in institutional and field activities.
3. Basic Services: Ensure that basic services relating to adequate food, clothing, health care, and shelter are provided to the incarcerated inmate population.
4. Opportunity for Change: Provide an environment which enables positive behavior change by making educational and rehabilitative opportunities available for persons under our supervision who demonstrate motivation for change.
5. Opportunity for Making Amends: Provide opportunities for making restitution and for participating in community initiatives as a mechanism to compensate, in some fashion, individuals and communities harmed by crime and provide appropriate services for victims of crimes committed by offenders in our custody or under our supervision.

Inside the System: How Inmates Live and Work

Housing

Most adult inmates live in open dormitories that accommodate, on the average, about 50 persons. Very few living areas are air conditioned; most are cooled the "old fashioned way," with windows and fans.

Safety considerations preclude much in the way of privacy. Shower nozzles, toilets, and urinals are located in basically open areas. While the main lights are turned off at a set time each night, the sleeping areas are never without light because officers must be able to monitor the dorms and make the required counts.

Inmates must keep their personal possessions and toiletries in two lockers, each about 2' by 3'. Department regulation and institutional policy define precisely which and how many items an inmate can have. Again, because of security concerns attached to items shipped from outside, most items that are not state issue must be purchased from the inmate canteens at the prisons.

Cells are reserved for inmates awaiting disciplinary hearings for prison rule violations and inmates whose disruptive prison behavior requires that they be separated from the general population. Those assigned to "working cellblocks" live two to a cell and leave their cells to work in the fields. Inmates who cannot safely be released to work live in single cells and remain there 23 hours a day. Death Row inmates also live in single cells.

Work

A basic operational principle, enforced throughout the prison system, is that every inmate who is able to work does so. Inmates are required to get up and report to a specified site at a specific time. Failure to report timely can result in disciplinary action. These requirements keep inmates constructively busy for a significant portion of the day and force them to model behavior that will be expected when they return to the community.

Jobs performed by inmates vary from field work and facility clean-up and maintenance to skilled labor, tutoring, and inmate legal activities.

A survey included in the August 1998 *Corrections Compendium* newsletter indicated that Louisiana is second among the 50 states and the District of Columbia with regard to the percentage of its inmates who work: 17,105 inmates (96 percent of those in the state system) held jobs in the institutions. The four percent not working either were physically and/or mentally unable to perform regular work duties or were housed in disciplinary segregation, where they spent all day in their cells, with the option of one hour's exercise time.

Educational Programming

The department provides basic literacy, Adult Basic Education (ABE), General Education Development (GED) preparation, and vocational training to inmates who are motivated to take advantage of these opportunities and have demonstrated behavior that would enable them to function in an

educational setting. Educational functioning is tested upon intake, and inmates are made aware of educational opportunities. About 22 percent of the incarcerated adult population participates in educational programming, most as students, some as tutors.

For several years the Job Skills Education Program (JSEP) has been in place in five adult institutions. It is a computer-based learning program developed by the U.S. Army to bring participants with limited skills up to a fourth grade reading level while offering computer-based vocational training. The computerized training can then be supplemented by additional work in a traditional classroom setting and/or hands-on vocational training. Teachers report that inmates who complete the program's pre-GED prescriptions enter formal ABE/GED classes better prepared than most others to complete study and take the GED test.

A life skills grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, supports Project Metamorphosis, piloted initially at Elayn Hunt Correctional Center and Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women. The program's goal is to reduce recidivism in the adult system by increasing vocational, cognitive, and employability skills, thereby enhancing the possibility of higher post-release employment and better wages. Staff work with inmates who are twelve to eighteen months from release to develop individual transition plans to connect inmates with opportunities for training, jobs, and support services in their communities.

The Vital Issues Project (VIP) was introduced at C. Paul Phelps Correctional Center and Washington Correctional Institute through a grant from the non-profit Life's Skills Foundation. Staff facilitators have been trained and materials provided for 75 inmates at each location. The program seeks to instill in inmates the belief that they can succeed if they are willing to work hard, depend on their own initiative, and make independent judgements. The program covers topics like goal setting, problem solving, decision making, financial stability, communications, and employment. Inmates work as a peer group to support one another.

Medical and Mental Health Care

Inmates are constitutionally guaranteed basic medical and mental health care, and every institution has appropriately licensed staff on site and on call. Inmates requiring more than basic medical treatment are usually transported to a hospital in the state's charity hospital system. Inmates requiring inpatient mental health care are treated within the institutional system.

In 1996 the department instituted medical co-payments-- \$3 for a self-initiated request for medical, dental, or mental health services and \$2 for each new prescription written and dispensed (with the exception of psychotropic drugs and medications prescribed for public health purposes). No inmate is refused access to treatment or medicine because of inability to pay; costs for the services provided, however, are carried as a debt to the inmate's account.

Co-payments were instituted as a means of curtailing inmate abuse of sick call (claiming illness to avoid work) and quickly relieved the system of artificial volume, thereby freeing medical staff to see inmates who need to be seen. The practice also models the system in place for most tax-payers.

Substance Abuse Programming

Substance abuse coordinators and active Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous groups are part of the programming at all adult facilities. Since 1991, residential substance abuse treatment has been available to selected inmates nearing release through the H. J. "Blue" Walters Substance Abuse Program at Dixon Correctional Institute. The program closes effective October 2, 2000, but a similar program operated by the Orleans Criminal Sheriff's Office began accepting inmates in mid August 2000.

Sex Offender Programming

All institutions have a sex offender treatment program, which includes counseling and group therapy under the guidance of trained mental health staff. Inmate participation is encouraged but voluntary.

Religious Activities

With one exception, all adult institutions have at least one full-time chaplain to lead religious services and coordinate religious activities on institutional grounds. The exception is Work Training Facility-North. There, a part-time chaplain provided by the Louisiana Baptist Convention Mission Department coordinates religious activities, which are offered through the involvement of the Beauregard Mission and thirteen area churches.

Volunteers are at the heart of religious programming in the institutions. Every week, hundreds of volunteers enter prison grounds to preach, teach, sing, and otherwise minister to the needs of the inmate population. They come as part of local congregations and representatives of prison outreach organizations like Prison Fellowship and Kairos.

Character Counts and Parenting Skills Training

When the department adopted primary crime prevention as an appropriate part of its mission, it developed programming intended to help foster a generation of healthy, nourished, and nurtured children, who will be less likely to become involved in violence, drop out of school, and/or use drugs.

CHARACTER COUNTS! is a national program formulated by a nonpartisan, nonsectarian alliance of more than 200 nonprofit organizations. Its goal is to strengthen the character of America's young people by encouraging them to adopt a consistent set of ethical values. Alliance members agreed upon six core values, referred to as the "Six Pillars of Character" (Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship). *CHARACTER COUNTS!* training and activities are now included in all adult and juvenile institutions.

A broadly uniform, 30-hour parenting skills curriculum has been implemented in all adult and juvenile institutions. Participation is mandatory for juvenile offenders over age 14 and adult inmates within a year of release. Course topics include neonatal and early childhood development, the care of infants, playing with toddlers, modeling positive behavior, and appropriate discipline for all ages.

Privileges

Maintaining family contacts is important to an inmate's ability to adjust in prison and to his/her future potential to return successfully to a community. Access to telephones and visiting support this need. The inmate telephone system is a toll system, which requires inmates' relatives and friends to pay for calls. The department in turn receives a commission from the vendor, and the monies are used for a variety of items and activities, all which benefit the inmate population in general. Past abuses of the telephone system have been largely curtailed by requiring inmates to submit an approved caller list and then programming those numbers into the system, so that an inmate can call only those numbers. If an inmate circumvents the process and someone reports receiving unsolicited telephone calls, the department will take additional steps (including disciplinary action) to halt the telephone calls.

Inmates submit the names of persons they would like to have visit them in prison. Before being approved for an inmate's visiting list, persons are sent a questionnaire and are screened for prior criminal history. Visitors may be removed for a period of time or permanently for violation of institutional rules.

Recreation is an important part of prison life. It diminishes the amount of idle time and enables inmates to expend energy. Television is available after work hours and before lights out. Viewing is limited to local stations, educational channels, CNN, ESPN and general programming stations like WGN, TNT, and Nickelodeon. Recreation equipment, cable access, and movie videos are paid for by the Inmate Welfare Fund, generated primarily from telephone and canteen commissions.

Drug Testing

Because the use of illicit drugs by inmates presents a serious threat to safety and security, drug and alcohol testing is basic. Monthly, random screens are conducted on a minimum of 5% of each institution's population. In addition, individual inmates or groups can be tested, and inmates returning from escorted absences, work details, or other events off institutional grounds may be ordered to submit to a urine screen. Any inmate who refuses to be tested is charged with possession of contraband.

Inmate Disciplinary Process

All adult inmates entering the system are provided a copy of the *Disciplinary Rules and Procedures for Adult Inmates*. Alleged rule violations are followed by a formal hearing at which the accused can present a defense. Penalties are based on the seriousness of the offense and the inmate's overall disciplinary record and include options ranging from reprimand and suspended imposition of penalties to loss of privileges, loss of good time credits, and/or change of job assignment, housing area, or custody status. Escape can be penalized by loss of all good time credit earned up to the time of the escape. Battery on a department employee can result in the loss of up to 180 days of good time. Rule violations that are violations of law (e.g.,

escape, battery, aggravated fighting, contraband) are also referred to the appropriate district attorney for consideration and further action.

Community Outreach

As part of Governor and Mrs. M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.'s Project Clean-Up, inmate crews systematically pick up trash, trim weeds, and cut grass along public rights of way. They also perform general maintenance and clean-up at schools, do general public facility maintenance, plant and mulch flower beds, cut trees from canal banks, and perform general cleaning and maintenance at welcome centers. During one typical week, inmate crews from the state's adult and juvenile correctional institutions collected 12,649 bags of trash and worked 20,221 man hours--not only in litter abatement and highway and grounds maintenance but also into activities like stuffing envelopes for the Red Cross, sorting food items at local food banks, and moving equipment for the Special Olympics.

Classification—Where Inmates Serve Their Time

In General

When a court orders an inmate to serve his or her sentence "at hard labor," the inmate is thereby remanded to the authority of the state. Of the 34,415 inmates in physical custody on February 22, 2000, 19,322 were housed in state institutions or contract work release facilities; 15,093 were housed in local jurisdictions. Many in the latter group were serving their time in the parishes under formal and informal partnership agreements with local governments.

The current distribution of state inmates among state and local facilities grows out of a "corrections coalition," established by the department and local authorities and directed toward making best use of prisoner beds at the state and the local levels so as to increase public safety, provide inmate labor to local governments, and optimize investment of funds spent on incarceration. These agreements work generally to assign the violent, incorrigible, special needs, and high-risk inmates to state facilities and the less violent and lower risk inmates to local facilities.

To increase prison bed space, the department and local public entities are authorized by law to execute Cooperative Endeavor Agreements, whereby local entities agree to provide new jail space in excess of local needs in exchange for the state's commitment to utilize a fixed percentage of that space. This facilitates local financing when other options are not available and allows expansion of the number of beds for local as well as state use.

In keeping with these mutual commitments and the need to ensure equitable treatment of state inmates regardless of physical location, the department and the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association developed a comprehensive set of Basic Jail Guidelines, which must be adhered to by all parish prisons and local jails as a condition of housing state inmates.

Classification Within the State System

Most male inmates enter the state system through the Adult Reception and Diagnostic Center (ARDC) at Elayn Hunt Correctional Center in St. Gabriel. Male inmates from the northern parishes enter the system through the Wade Reception and Diagnostic Center (WRDC) at the Martin L. Forcht, Jr., Clinical Treatment Unit, a satellite of the David Wade Correctional Center in Claiborne Parish. Death Row inmates are transferred directly from the parish to the Louisiana State Penitentiary. Male inmates sentenced to life and inmates with more than twenty years to their earliest possible release date are usually classified to the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola. Otherwise, they are assigned to one of eight other state institutions for males.

Over time male inmates serving a specified number of years can earn their way to the minimum security National Guard maintenance facility, Work Training Facility-North in Pineville, and/or to one of nine work release facilities. Other factors that influence transfers within the state system are disciplinary infractions, special medical or mental health needs, and the area of the state to which the inmate will return upon release.

Upon request of State Police, inmates who meet certain classification criteria can be transferred to the minimum security State Police Barracks in Baton Rouge.

The Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women at St. Gabriel is the only state prison for female inmates. This facility handles intake processing and houses all levels of security, including death sentences.

There are three custody levels in the adult classification system— maximum, medium, and minimum. The level designation determines an inmate's housing assignment and the closeness of supervision and use of mechanical restraints required as the inmate moves inside or is transported outside the prison.

The Adult Institutions

Individual Snapshots

ALLEN CORRECTIONAL CENTER (ALC)

3751 Lauderdale Woodyard Road

Kinder, LA 70648

(318) 639-2943

Warden: O. Kent Andrews

Opened: 1990

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1993

ALC houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 1538

Education:

C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.

C Vocational Training in Culinary Arts, Computerized Office Practices, Upholstery, and Cabinet Making.

In 1999, 34 GEDs and 36 vocational certificates were awarded.

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Program notes:

ALC is managed by the Wackenhut Corrections Corporation.

ALC officers help maintain the secure ward at the Huey P. Long Regional Medical Center in Pineville, where inmates are sent for scheduled appointments with medical specialists.

ALC's mental health department offers Commitment to Change, an eleven-week program that "acts like a mirror." Inmates first learn to identify errors in other people's thinking and the consequences of those errors. Then, inevitably, participants begin to apply their insights to themselves. The program offers inmates believable models, persons whose life experiences resemble their own, who are struggling toward change.

In addition to basic substance abuse education and prevention opportunities for ALC inmates (including Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous groups and 12-Step programs), ALC offers the "District Attorney's Drug Abuse Pre-Intervention Program" for first-time youthful offenders and the "District Attorney's Intervention Rap Session" for older offenders on the verge of imprisonment. In both programs inmate peer trainers (who have themselves been trained for their roles) relate what offenders can face in prison.

ALC has developed an Incentive/Awards program to recognize inmates for completion of certain course offerings and group activities, progressive sobriety, and other significant accomplishments.

Other inmate programming includes anger management, sex offender treatment, group therapy, Character Counts, and pre-release preparation.

AVOYELLES CORRECTIONAL CENTER (AVC)

1630 Prison Road

Cottonport, LA 71327

(318) 876-2891

Warden: Baron Kaylo

Opened: 1989

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1992

AVC houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 1538

Education:

- C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.
- C Vocational Training in Culinary Arts, Horticulture, Collision Repair, Automotive Technology, Deisel Technology, and Computer Refurbishing..
- C Inmates may also register for college correspondence courses at their own expense.

In 1999, 55 GEDs, 30 vocational certificates, and 39 JSEP certificates of completion were awarded .

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Program notes:

A Juvenile Awareness Program, developed in 1993, enables inmates to “give something back” to the community. School and church groups can take a perimeter bus tour and walk through a medium custody housing area. Carefully selected inmates perform skits emphasizing the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse and criminal behavior, hoping to influence youth to reevaluate bad situations while there is still time.

A computer refurbishing program, administered by the Louisiana Technical College - Avoyelles Campus, is a “win, win, win” initiative. Scrapped and surplus computers go to the facility, not a landfill; inmates are taught skills to repair computers; the finished products are donated to parish schools.

In collaboration with the Marksville Police Department and the Marksville Chamber of Commerce, AVC operates a bicycle recycling program. Inmates refurbish donated and abandoned bikes and the Marksville PD donates them to disadvantaged children in the parish.

When the cost of inmate brogans almost doubled, AVC began “recycling,” replacing the sole and/or heel of salvageable shoes, sanitizing them, and giving them a good coat of polish.

Annually, inmates in the Social Advancement Club donate school supplies and Christmas gifts to area children who need them. Inmates in the Amateur Officials Club provide food baskets at Thanksgiving to needy members of the parish’s elderly population.

Under direct staff supervision, inmates are trained and certified by the

Alexandria chapter of the American Red Cross to provide HIV/AIDS education and counseling to the inmate population. Peer counselors, housed throughout the prison, handle new-inmate orientation and participate in prerelease preparation.

The Avoyelles Correctional Center News is a quarterly employee newsletter circulated to keep staff informed about significant events and developments in the institution, department, and field in general.

AVC was a catalyst for Operation P.E.E.P. (Parish-Wide Escape/Emergency Contingency Plan) through which representatives of AVC, the Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Office, and State Police developed a coordinated plan for responding to events like a prison escape. AVC also developed a Citizens Emergency Response Team, consisting primarily of elderly citizens, who agree to notify neighbors if there were an escape.

AVC is developing a Youthful Offender Case Management program to target incoming inmates who are not yet twenty years old. A multi-disciplinary team will manage the program's population.

AVC officers help maintain the secure ward at the Huey P. Long Regional Medical Center in Pineville, where inmates are sent for scheduled appointments with medical specialists.

DAVID WADE CORRECTIONAL CENTER (DWCC)
670 Bell Hill Road
Homer, LA 71040 (318) 927-0400
Warden: Kelly D. Ward

Opened: 1980
Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1992

DWCC houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.
Operational capacity in 2000: 1566

Education:

- C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.
- C Vocational Training in Air Conditioning & Refrigeration, Auto Mechanics, Carpentry, Horticulture, and Welding.

In 1999, 31 GEDs and 50 vocational certificates were awarded.

Special units:

- C N-5 Special Management Unit (the "Protection Unit") is a cellblock housing 50 inmates, a mix of former correctional officers and policemen, notorious offenders, and very young lifers. It offers a microcosm of regular institutional programming but is wholly separate from all other areas of the prison.
- C The Dr. Martin L. Forcht, Jr., Clinical Treatment Unit (Forcht-Wade) is a satellite facility located in the old Caddo Correctional Center near Shreveport. It began receiving inmates in 1996. When renovations are completed in 2001, it will house 523 inmates, most of whom are aged and/or infirm. The facility also serves as a Reception and Diagnostic Center for inmates sentenced from the northern part of the state.

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Program notes:

DWCC security manages an eleven-bed prison ward at E. A. Conway Hospital in Monroe for state inmates and, occasionally, parish jail inmates.

The DWCC Chase Team assists area law enforcement agencies and makes available its bloodhounds and a certified drug detection dog. The Warden J. O. Whittington Firing Range, built by joint effort of DWCC and the Claiborne Parish Sheriff's Office, is used for firearms training for officers from DWCC and area law enforcement agencies.

Inmate clubs are involved with crime prevention and community service. The Human Relations Club sponsors a drug and gang awareness seminar at DWCC for junior high students. Carefully screened and selected inmates speak with junior high, high school, and college students and travel annually to the Shreveport-Bossier Leadership Conference, which emphasizes the importance of remaining free of crime and drugs. The Toy Project distributed about 3000 wooden toys to charitable agencies in northwest Louisiana last year. With the help of donations from local businesses, civic organizations,

churches, and private citizens, inmates work year round to build a variety of toys. Vets Incarcerated sponsors a weekend literacy program with about 100 inmate students participating.

In 1998 the Kisatchie [Inmate] Jaycees won the Curtiss Miller Memorial Award as best overall chapter in Louisiana, an award never before won by an institutional chapter. The group was also honored as the #1 institutional chapter for the fifth consecutive year. Club activities include an annual walk-a-thon to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Inmate work crews help maintain the Greenwood and Mounds Welcome Centers. Project Clean-Up teams invest about 8928 man-hours a month toward litter abatement.

DWCC, in partnership with the Ark-La-Tex Alternative to Violence Program, offers an intensive workshop that focuses on learning constructive conflict resolution techniques as an alternative to violent behavior. DWCC also piloted a volunteer-led restorative justice pilot program directed toward helping inmates understand the impact of their criminal actions on their victims and themselves.

DIXON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE (DCI)

P. O. Box 788

Jackson, LA 70748

(225) 634-1200

Warden: James M. LeBlanc

Opened: 1976

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1993

DCI houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 1618

Education:

- C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.
- C Vocational Training in Electronics, Auto Mechanics, Auto Body and Fender Repair, Wakefield Meat Distribution Plant, & Horticulture Program.

In 1999, 82 GEDs, 30 vocational certificates, and 147 JSEP certificates of completion were awarded.

Special units:

- C The Dialysis Unit houses all state inmates requiring care and treatment for chronic renal failure. They are transported from DCI to Earl K. Long Hospital for hemodialysis.
- C Inmates housed at and assigned to duties from the State Police Barracks in Baton Rouge will be moved to new quarters at DCI in late 2001. The current barracks capacity of 195 will be expanded to accommodate 208 inmates.

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Program notes:

DCI officers cover the secure ward at Earl K. Long Hospital in Baton Rouge.

The contractual public facilities and grounds maintenance crews operate out of DCI. Through this janitorial service program, inmate crews maintain about one million square feet in 14 state buildings and 120 acres of grounds in the Baton Rouge metropolitan area, for which the state realizes a savings of over \$2.4 million/year. Two litter crews are assigned to Governor and Mrs. Foster's "Project Clean-Up."

DCI provides security and inmate workers for the Wakefield Meat Distribution Plant, which processes about 80 percent of all beef and pork consumed by the department's inmates. Beef, pork, poultry, and fish are purchased in bulk and distributed to other state facilities.

The PRIDE (Prisoner Rehabilitation through Integrity, Discipline, and Education) program rewards inmates who demonstrate good citizenship, good moral character, and good conduct. Membership requires inmates to be one year without a disciplinary write-up and affords them extra privileges

such as extended visiting hours and television and recreation room hours and attendance at special institutional events.

DCI chaplains train and coordinate the services of about 350 volunteers, who come to the prison each week to sponsor and coordinate at least ten group gatherings of different denominations.

DCI boasts a chapter of Veterans Incarcerated, open to any inmate who has served in the U.S. armed forces. The group provides services for veterans, raises funds for charitable causes, and strives to improve the general public's perception of the incarcerated veteran. The inmate Jaycees man the "Children's Corner," instituted in cooperation with Catholic Community Services and C.U.R.E. (Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants) to provide books and coloring materials for children who come to visit inmates.

The Case Management for Youthful Offenders program targets the needs of DCI's youthful offenders by assessing educational needs, promoting and encouraging prosocial and responsible behavior, and providing opportunities for self improvement through established programs like substance abuse, parenting skills, and anger management.

The Restorative Justice Project, piloted at David Wade Correctional Center, now exists at DCI. The 20-week program stresses victim awareness and offender accountability. Inmates, who volunteer to participate, must admit guilt and accept responsibility for their crimes. During weekly sessions, they read from journal assignments, which make personal application of the material covered through presentations, exercises, and panels of visitors. They do not receive certificates for participating.

ELAYN HUNT CORRECTIONAL CENTER (EHCC)

P. O. Box 174

St. Gabriel, LA 70776 (225) 642-3306

Warden: C. M. Lensing

Opened: 1979

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1993

EHCC houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 2176

Education:

- C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.
- C Vocational Training in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, Building Engineering Technology, Computer Repair Technology, Consumer Electronics, Horticulture, Welding/Shipfitting, Outdoor Power Equipment Repair.

In 1999, 115 GEDs, 164 vocational certificates, and 649 JSEP certificates were awarded.

Special units:

- C The Adult Reception and Diagnostic Center (ARDC) handles intake and classification for most males entering the state system.
- C IMPACT (Intensive Motivational Program of Alternative Correctional Treatment) was established in 1987 and is often referred to as "the boot camp program." It consists of a minimum of 180 days in a highly regimented, tightly structured treatment program within a military model, followed by a period of intensive parole supervision. IMPACT maintains a separate American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation and was first accredited in 1994. It was recognized in 1998 as an ACA "Best Practice." IMPACT inmates are a highly visible part of EHCC's public service effort.
- C The Hunt Special Unit (HSU) houses inmates with acute mental health problems.
- C The Classification/Jail Records staff perform a statewide classification function, overseeing the transfer of all DOC inmates (male and female) at the local level and within the state system. They also manage the population of state inmates housed in parish facilities, local jails, work release centers, State Police Barracks, and out-of-state jurisdictions (a total of almost 16,000) and are responsible for in-take documentation, time computation, and records maintenance for those inmates.

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Program notes:

EHCC is equipped to house male inmates with serious or chronic mental health/medical problems and those requiring protective custody. EHCC has a disciplinary adjustment program for maximum custody inmates.

EHCC conducts an HIV peer counseling program for inmates entering the system through ARDC. EHCC offers a Hospice program wherein trained individuals work with terminally ill inmates and their families.

EHCC supervises the secure ward at the Medical Center of Louisiana in New Orleans and provides security staffing, maintenance, and other support for the Headquarters compound in Baton Rouge.

EHCC circulates a monthly employee newsletter (the *Elayn Hunt Correctional Center News*) to promote communication among staff at all levels.

EHCC offers "Keeping Kids from Incarceration" tours as a means of educating at-risk juveniles about prison life. The prison offers a range of educational tours for other school and youth groups.

For six years in a row EHCC has won the Most Outstanding Governmental Agency Award from the Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center Blood Bank. In 1999 staff donated \$36,000 to the Capital Area United Way.

LOUISIANA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN (LCIW)

P. O. Box 26

St. Gabriel, LA 70776 (225) 642-5529

Warden: Johnnie W. Jones

Opened: 1961

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1993

LCIW houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 1000

Education:

C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.

C JSEP

C Vocational Training in Information Systems Technology, Custom Sewing, Upholstery, Culinary Arts, and Horticulture.

In 1999, 33 GEDs, 46 vocational certificates, and 79 JSEP certificates of completion were awarded.

Special units:

C Because LCIW is the only state prison for females, the institution has designated space for new offender intake, Death Row, IMPACT (boot camp), and residential substance abuse treatment.

IMPACT participants live together on a wing at the prison and are transported daily to the IMPACT unit at EHCC.

Women with a history of substance abuse, who are within twelve months of their earliest release date, may participate in a program of professionally facilitated education and therapy groups for the chemically dependent.

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Program notes:

LCIW provides security for females in wards at Earl K. Long Hospital in Baton Rouge and the Medical Center of Louisiana in New Orleans.

KAIROS is an important component of religious programming for many residents. Twice a year volunteers from different religious organizations, under the coordination of the chaplain, lead a four-day retreat on institutional grounds. Those events are supported by on-going monthly KAIROS reunions and weekly prayer sessions.

LCIW offers the Program for Caring Parents, initiated as a way to create meaningful interaction between children and their incarcerated mothers or grandmothers. Medium and minimum custody inmates who qualify for the program receive extended visiting hours and the opportunity for their children (ages 10 and younger) to be on institutional grounds for eight hours over a

weekend.

A Children's Christmas Extravaganza is held annually for inmates' children who are 10 years old or younger. Each year at Easter, there is a Children's Day celebration, which again opens the facility to inmates' children ten and younger. Every year LCIW employees sponsor "Ladies Day," featuring games, food, dancing, and other activities.

Staff and inmates join to host an annual Christmas party for residents of the Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired.

Alcoholics Anonymous-12 Step, Narcotics Anonymous-12 Step, AL-ANON, and Survivors of Domestic Violence groups are facilitated by volunteers each week after regular work hours. A Sexual Trauma Resolution therapy group is also available. Inmates can participate in a volunteer-directed drama club, which meets after regular work hours.

LOUISIANA STATE PENITENTIARY (LSP)

General Delivery

Angola, LA 70712

(225) 655-4411

Warden: Burl Cain

Opened: 1866

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1994

LSP houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 5108

Education:

- C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.
- C Vocational Training in Welding, Carpentry, Culinary Arts, and Graphic Arts.
- C Angola Bible College, an extension of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, offers both two-year and four-year degrees. (It was initiated in 1995 through involvement of the Judson Association of the Louisiana Southern Baptists to further educate the leaders and pastors of the inmate population.)
- C On-the-job-training. Inmates learn a number of skills, including food preparation, welding, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, air conditioning & refrigeration, small engine repair, body and fender work, laundry operations, husbandry, and hospital orderly skills.

In 1999 44 GEDs, 12 vocational certificates, and 15 diplomas were awarded.

Special units:

- C Death Row houses inmates sentenced by the courts to die by lethal injection. It presently houses more than 80 inmates.
- C The R. E. Barrow Treatment Center is a fully staffed medical facility; its treatment capacity is enhanced through telemedicine.
- C The LSP Training Academy is the central Basic Training site for new correctional officers in the adult and juvenile systems.

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Program notes:

LSP occupies 18,000 acres and is organized and administered as a series of six semi-independent units within the perimeter: Main Prison, the Reception Center, and Camps C, D, J, and F.

LSP offers a certified Hospice, which the National Prison Hospice Foundation has cited as a model. The extensive use of inmate volunteers and inmate visitors in place of and in conjunction with actual family involvement sets the program apart.

Two LSP inmates have been certified as Basic Life Support Trainer Instructors, qualifying them to teach and certify other CPR instructors. As a result, dozens have been certified to teach CPR, and hundreds have learned the life-saving procedure, which buys time until EMTs arrive.

As part of LSP's Juvenile Awareness Program, at-risk juveniles and other youth come to the prison for a staff-led tour of the facility, then watch skits developed by carefully selected inmates who act out--then talk personally about--the risks and results of defiance, drug use, promiscuity, and criminal behavior.

S.T.E.P. (Step Toward Education Program) is an inmate-based literacy program offered in the outcamps and the Main Prison Complex. Trained inmate tutors instruct other inmates, varying from those unable to read at all to those who are preparing for their GEDs.

The annual Angola Rodeo, billed as the "Wildest Show in the South," has entertained crowds since 1964. Visitors also enter prison grounds for an inmate arts and crafts show and sale each spring and fall.

In 1998 and 1999 documentaries about different aspects of prison life at LSP were nominated for an Academy Award.

Located just outside the prison's main gate is the LSP Museum, which offers artifacts and displays portraying the prison's past and its evolution into the present.

C. PAUL PHELPS CORRECTIONAL CENTER (PCC)
P. O. Box 1056
DeQuincy, LA 70633 (318) 786-7963
Warden: Jim Rogers

Opened: 1958
Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1994

PCC houses Medium and Minimum custody inmates.
Operational capacity in 2000: 805

Education:

- ☐ Literacy, Special Education, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.
- ☐ Vocational Training in Welding, Automotive Technology, Collision Repair, and Industrial Sewing.

In 1999, 37 GEDs and 74 vocational certificates were awarded.

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Program notes:

PCC is the second oldest prison facility in the state.

Local law enforcement frequently calls on the PCC chase team to help locate lost persons and fugitives. Tact team members assist local agencies with executing warrants on drug offenders, shakedowns of jails and schools, and crowd control at various public events.

PCC has thirteen inmate work crews. A number are assigned to nearby towns: DeQuincy, DeRidder, Vinton, and Rosepine. Three Project Clean-Up crews and two other crews work at the visitor rest areas along the western stretch of Interstate 10.

PCC takes pride in the fact that DeQuincy recently won a Cleanest City Award. A community project crew from the institution and the DeQuincy work crew helped get everything in order for the contest inspection.

Inmate involvement in the community is encouraged. Selected inmates are allowed to speak to community and college groups concerning drugs and alcohol use and assist annually with the Railroad Days Festival in DeQuincy and other special community projects.

The PCC Jaycees are Partners in Education with Singer High School. The group participates in "Adopt a Highway" between the school and the prison, and since 1998 has donated a \$100 scholarship for a graduating senior. The Jaycees also collect toys for inmates' children who visit during the Christmas holidays and collect canned goods for area programs. The American Red

Cross in Lake Charles has called on the club for assistance during emergencies.

Almost 400 people serve as volunteers at PCC. Many are involved in the religious services available to inmates each evening.

PCC is one of two pilot locations for the Vital Issues Project (VIP). The program provides staff training and classroom materials for a cognitive-based program that seeks to teach inmates that they can have a higher quality of life without antisocial activities. Participants begin to recognize their own potential and see the role of motivation and hard work in creating positive results for themselves. The program operates as a peer group. It is available to new arrivals and inmates within twelve months of discharge.

An Honor Cottage, located in one of the original dormitories of the prison, houses inmates who earn special privileges and individual rooms by good conduct and good work records.

Institutional property is used to grow garden crops and provide pasture for cattle.

WASHINGTON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE (WCI)
27268 Highway 21
Angie, LA 70426 (504) 986-5005
Warden: Ed Day

Opened: 1983
Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1993

WCI houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.
Operational capacity in 2000: 1212

Education:

- C Literacy, Adult Basic Education/GED preparation, and Job Skills Education Program (JSEP).
- C Vocational Training in Auto Mechanics and Welding.

In 1999, 15 GEDs and 21 vocational certificates, and 101 JSEP certificates were awarded.

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Program notes:

The WCI fire department has a mutual aid agreement with the Angie and Varnado fire departments.

Specially trained officers and their dogs are often called on to assist local law enforcement searching for escaped fugitives and lost persons and to conduct contraband searches in parish jails and area schools. They also provide security and crowd control for public events like the Bogalusa and New Orleans Mardi Gras parades, Sugar Bowl and Super Bowl, and Washington Parish Free Fair.

Inmate work crews maintain the Visitor Welcome Center on I-110 near Slidell. Inmate crews also assist with lighting for Bogalusa's Cassidy Park Christmas display; perform year-round maintenance, repairs, and construction at the Washington Parish Fair Grounds in Franklinton; perform landscaping and grounds keeping on city property in Bogalusa; prepare the site of area's Campfire Council's summer camp; perform construction and maintenance projects at the Louisiana Technical College, Sullivan Campus.

Inmate programs include a 12-Step Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous group; "Crimeoholics," a program that helps inmates combat the likelihood of return to prison by teaching self-awareness and life styles that offer an alternative to crime; and other groups that focus on self-esteem and anger/stress management and impulse control.

WCI is one of two pilot locations for the Vital Issues Project (VIP), a cognitive-based program that seeks to teach inmates that they can have a higher quality of life without antisocial activities. It was implemented in December 1999 to serve inmates within eighteen months of release. Groups of 25 inmates move through the program, which operates based on peer group relationships and helps participants begin to recognize their own potential and see the role of motivation and hard work in creating positive results for themselves.

WINN CORRECTIONAL CENTER (WNC)

Gum Springs Road

Highway 560, Box 1260

Winnfield, LA 71483-1260

(318) 628-3971

Warden: Mickey L. Hubert

Opened: 1990

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1991

WNC houses Maximum, Medium, and Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 1538

Education:

- C Literacy, Adult Basic Education, ESL (English as second language), and GED preparation.
- C Vocational Training in Auto Body Repair, Basic Auto Services, Computerized Informational Practice,
- C Culinary Arts, Heating-Ventilation & Air Conditioning, Horticulture, Printing Operations, and Janitorial and Sanitation Services.
- C Project Metamorphosis materials are taught for about an hour and a half each Wednesday in all academic and vo-tech classes.

In 1999, 28 GEDs and 243 vocational certificates were awarded.

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Program notes:

WNC, managed by Corrections Corporation of America, was the first privately managed prison in Louisiana and the first privately managed medium-security prison in the United States.

WNC is site of the state's only Prison Industry Enhancement (PIE) program in which inmates work for actual wages in a garment factory producing consumer apparel safety items at the prison.

Visiting days feature "Story Time," a reading program created to allow and encourage inmate fathers to read to their children. At Christmas, the facility's Jaycee organization will provide books for children who visit.

"Just Say No to Drugs or Else" is a nationally recognized drug awareness program developed in 1994 by WNC staff. Taking a "hard hitting approach to real life," the program depicts life on the streets, gangs, and prison. It has held the attention of more than 120,000 children and young adults and has been acclaimed on CNN, ABC, NBC, and CBS and in the *Jaycee Magazine International*.

The CCA/Winn Jaycees, one of the state's outstanding institutional chapters, has won national attention for participation in "Just Say No to Drugs or Else." Other club activities include drives to benefit the Louisiana Special Olympics, Muscular Dystrophy, and the March of Dimes—activities which are supported by other inmates, staff, and administration as well as public officials and law enforcement officers.

Corrections Corporation of America in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Labor offered a first-of-its-kind job fair for inmates.

As part of the institution's HIV Peer Educator Program, inmates arriving at and discharging from WNC receive a class on prevention and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases. Peer educators receive training from the American Red Cross and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals.

WORK TRAINING FACILITY-NORTH (WTFN)

Camp Beauregard

1453 15th Street

Pineville, LA 71360

(318) 640-0351

Warden: Ronnie Futrell

Opened: 1970

Originally accredited by American Correctional Association: 1992

WTFN houses Minimum custody inmates.

Operational capacity in 2000: 500

Education:

C Literacy, Adult Basic Education and GED preparation.

In 1999 31 GEDs were awarded.

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Program notes:

WTFN is a minimum custody facility adjacent to the Louisiana National Guard base at Camp Beauregard in Pineville. About 200 inmates work to maintain the physical plant and support other operations of the Guard. More than 150 additional inmates perform work for more than a dozen other federal, state, parish, and local public agencies.

WTFN officers help maintain the secure ward in the Huey P. Long Regional Medical Center in Pineville, where inmates are sent for scheduled appointments with medical specialists.

Two 85-bed honor dorms are available as an incentive for inmates to improve and maintain exemplary conduct and work records in exchange for additional privileges such as access to outdoor cooking and picnic facilities with approved visitors and first access to all activities, including meals.

Upon request, carefully selected inmates in the company of staff speak to youth groups in school and church groups and at the annual Boy Scouts of America Drug Seminar. Comments are directed toward impressing upon youth the possible consequences of alcohol and drug use and abuse.

An Inmate Welfare Council, composed of selected inmates representing various inmate interests, meets monthly with staff to discuss inmate issues and recommend ways in which Inmate Welfare monies should be spent.

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American Correctional Association (ACA) Accreditation

The American Correctional Association is an international, nonprofit organization of correctional professionals and practitioners, which has developed rigorous standards for prisons and other correctional operations. Award of ACA accreditation is a credential that identifies a facility or program as stable, safe, and constitutional.

ACA accreditation is the mechanism by which the department has chosen to pursue its goals and measure their attainment. The adult and juvenile institutions, the adult and juvenile divisions of probation and parole, the Prison Enterprises Division, the Headquarters offices, the adult work release programs, and the juvenile contract programs have earned and continue to maintain ACA accreditation. In fact, Louisiana's is one of only two fully accredited systems in America.

The accreditation process has been and continues to be a catalyst for productive change in policy-making, management, and operations throughout the department and its contract programs. As a result of the status confirmed by ACA accreditation, the department has gradually won release from federal court supervision and has realized a significant dollar savings in insurance premiums (based on reduced accident rates, resulting from ACA emphasis on safety issues).